



KENT ON SUNDAY

Published by KOS MEDIA LTD Telephone: (01303) 817000

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No.408

July 18, 2010

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REVIEW

ONE TEACHER A WEEK IS PUT ON SUSPENSION

Staff banned from classroom cost £300k

THE number of teachers suspended from classroom duties in Kent has more than doubled in just a year.

Figures obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request to County Hall revealed how one teacher a week is being suspended from primary and secondary schools in Kent.

In 2008-09, the total for the year was 19, but this more than doubled in 2009-10, with 43 being temporarily taken out of the classroom.

Reasons for suspensions included child protection issues, which can range from allegations of verbal abuse, unreasonable force against a pupil and, in worst cases, indecent assault.

Almost £300,000 was spent in 2009-10 providing cover for those suspended, with £260,648 the previous year and in 2007-08 – where the number of suspended teachers was 31 – £265,053.

The figures did not include schools in Medway, as the local authority was unable to provide details.

A Kent County Council spokesman said the authority makes it clear that schools should

EXCLUSIVE

By **MARIJKE COX**

avoid suspension wherever possible, but that sometimes it is unavoidable.

"Child protection suspensions are necessary when an allegation is made against a member of staff," he said.

"We need to make sure the allegation is fully investigated without the member of staff at work, as they can therefore influence witnesses or the process of investigation. Sometimes this includes an investigation by police and social services into the allegation if it is serious."

He added that in the rare occurrence of medical cases where a teacher refuses to be signed off sick, KCC advises headteachers to suspend them if they believe staff are too ill to be at work.

The high number of suspensions has been defended by teachers' unions, which claim the majority of investigations are dropped, and in a number of cases there have been false allega-

tions made by pupils. Marian Darke, regional secretary for the National Union of Teachers (NUT), said she was surprised by the high figures and criticised the suspension policy.

"We believe it is a problem where the tendency is to suspend teachers first, then carry out an investigation later," she said.

"The vast majority of cases are dropped and the allegations unfounded. It seems to be they are guilty until proven innocent."

Ms Darke said allegations can be distressing for teachers, which can lead to many not returning to the classroom.

"When it is seen that a member of staff is not at school, rumours spread and it makes it difficult for teachers to come back, even if they are found innocent," she said.

"Of course, it is right to suspend a teacher if they are a potential danger, but often children think they have more rights than they actually do and make allegations, in many situations about the level of restraint used."

She said cases such as the 2002 Soham

CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE

Picture: PAUL JERREAT



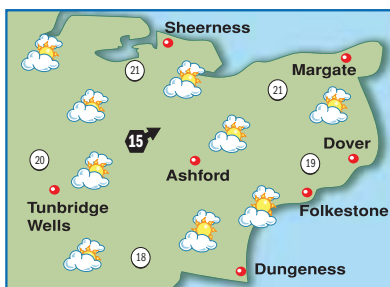
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Kent today



TODAY: It will be a largely dry day with spells of sunshine and only the odd patchy cloud. There will be just a gentle south to south-westerly wind. Max temp 19-22°C (66-72°F). **TONIGHT:** A mainly dry night with lengthy clear spells. Gentle south-westerly winds. Min temp 12-14°C (54-57°F).

Around Britain

	°C	°F		°C	°F
Aberdeen	cloudy	19 66	London	fair	22 72
Belfast	cloudy	19 66	Liverpool	rain	19 66
Birmingham	cloudy	20 68	Manchester	rain	20 68
B'mouth	fair	20 68	Newcastle	cloudy	19 66
Bristol	fair	18 64	Norwich	fair	23 73
Cardiff	rain	19 66	Oxford	cloudy	21 70
Cork	rain	18 64	Southsea	fair	20 68
Edinburgh	drizzle	18 64	S'hampton	fair	20 68
Glasgow	rain	17 63	Southport	rain	19 66
Isle of Man	rain	17 63	Swansea	rain	18 64
Leeds	drizzle	18 64	Torquay	drizzle	19 66

Sun & moon

Sunrise	4.58am	Sunset	9.04pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	2.07pm	Moonsset	11.32pm	9.04pm to 4.59am

High Tides

	today	ht (m)	ht (m)	tomorrow	ht (m)	ht (m)
Dover	04.38	6.2	16.57 6.4	05.30	5.9	17.54 6.1
Margate	05.45	4.5	17.50 4.7	06.38	4.3	18.46 4.5
St Mary's	10.25	5.0	22.50 5.0	11.23	4.7	23.52 4.6

Week ahead

monday Isolated showers. max 24C min 13C	thursday A few showers. max 21C min 11C
tuesday Cloudy, but dry. max 25C min 13C	friday Cloudy and wet. max 22C min 12C
wednesday Showery rain. max 21C min 11C	saturday The odd shower. max 22C min 12C

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KENT COUNTY SHOW 2010 Popular Detling event



FURRY FRIEND: While the farming livestock displays are always a big draw for the crowds, animals of all shapes and sizes could be seen at this year's County Show



FARM HAND: Sophie-Alice Chapman of North School in Ashford with one of school's cows

County shows a welcome return to its rural roots

By **NICK AMES** at Detling

THE Kent County Show went back to basics this year to highlight the importance of agriculture for the county's prosperity.

Why Farming Matters was one of the themes of the 2010 show, which opened in sunshine on Friday at the County Showground, Detling.

As well as displays of livestock and farming technology, new attractions included a food court and the increasingly popular EcoVillage – which highlighted sustainable technology and was one of the most popular parts of the site.

Lucy Hegarty, trade stand co-ordinator, said: "Visitors were able to see a whole range of exhibitions from baby chicks through to the latest large tractors."

Farmers at the show, which finishes today, were keen to highlight the importance of agriculture to Kent.

Sonia Purchase breeds Hereford cattle from her farm in Bossingham, between Folkestone and Canterbury. She said: "Farming and agriculture is at the heart of Kent. It has been a way of life in the county for centuries and even in these quite difficult times it provides jobs and a future for many. The Hereford cattle we breed are in quite short supply and we sell our pedigree animals across the UK, ensuring that stocks continue to thrive. "Agriculture is such a valuable resource."



The North School in Ashford runs a farming scheme for its pupils and Sophie-Alice Chapman, aged 15, was showing off some of the school's cattle.

She said: "The farm club we run is for everyone and it encourages those who want to continue a career in farming."

"We know there is a future in it and the school has invested in ensuring that pupils are given a chance to get a start."

Gill Dunmall, from Yalding, runs a farriers and she said the trade is as important now as it has always been.

She said: "In the old days there would be a forge in every village. Now it's a mobile trade. The farrier will take



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highlights how valuable and important agriculture is to county



THEY'RE RIDE ON: A fine display from the Army's White Helmet Motorcycle Team



Pictures: PAUL JERREAT

MOTURING CLASSICS: It's not just agricultural machinery that was on hand to thrill petrolheads



A HEAD FOR HEIGHTS: Kieran Hupen-Johnson from St Simon Stock School

his forge and his fire in the back of a van and visit customers that way.

"People still need shoes for their horses and as far as I am concerned they always will."

Among the other attractions was a display by the Army's White Helmet Motorcycle Team, a vintage funfair and display of vintage vehicles.

Jennifer Elliot, from Dover, was among the 90,000 visitors expected over the three days.

She said: "I enjoyed coming here and I think the show should really be about the farming industry. Everywhere you go in Kent you see farms. They're part of the landscape and something we should all appreciate."

The EcoVillage emphasised how environmentally-friendly techniques can help the



TOOT TOOT: Old-style technology on show

countryside to be preserved, and how resources can be used in a sustainable manner.

It included food and children's toys, as well as solar and wind-powered technologies.

Vicky Whitlock, who organised this part of the event, said: "While a lot of farmers wouldn't necessarily call themselves green, they do understand how the land needs to be used properly and protected."

Also based in the EcoVillage was Protect Kent, the county's branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England.

Chairman Richard Knox-Johnston said: "We are here to make sure people understand our way of life needs to be protected."

"There are threats from industrial development, power stations and airports. We do not want to see our way of life eroded."

The winner of the Gold Award at the show was Hadlow College which put together a show garden inspired by a visit to the war graves of northern France.

Designer Alan Graham said: "This area of countryside is quiet and peaceful and has a calm beauty about it which is entirely at odds with its violent past."

The garden was designed to reflect the graveyards including mosaic fish to represent the soldiers as 'fish out of water', being at war instead of being in peaceful occupations.



IN THE CROWD: 90,000 people are expected

'Situation needs to be handled better'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

murders, where two 10-year-old girls were killed by school caretaker Ian Huntley, are rare, but there has been an element of over-reaction as a result.

"The situation needs to be handled better. It seems that as soon as a child says something about a teacher they are suspended," she added.

Of the 43 suspended in 2009-10, eight have returned to the school, 18 have not and 17 investigations are ongoing.

The KCC spokesman admitted cases are often dropped, but this was put down to lack of evidence or misunderstanding.

"It may not necessarily be because the person making the claim is making false allegations," he said.

"Reaching a conclusion that an allegation from a child is false is quite rare. This is mainly because finding evidence to prove the allegation is false is quite difficult. It can often be the word of a child against the word of a teacher."

Headteachers of schools where children are found to be lying are advised to seek professional help for the child.

The spokesman added that KCC tells schools to avoid suspension where possible, advising them to look at other ways of investigating the matter.

Worker dies before Will Young concert

A WILL Young concert was marred by tragedy when a worker died after falling from the stage.

The man in his 40s suffered severe injuries to his head and face and also had a heart attack following Thursday night's incident at Rochester Castle gardens. He died hours later at Medway Maritime Hospital.

Before the show started, an appeal was made asking for witnesses who may have seen the incident. Police say the death is not being treated as suspicious and is not thought to be in relation to any health and safety issues.

His family have been informed and a post-mortem will probably take place on Tuesday.

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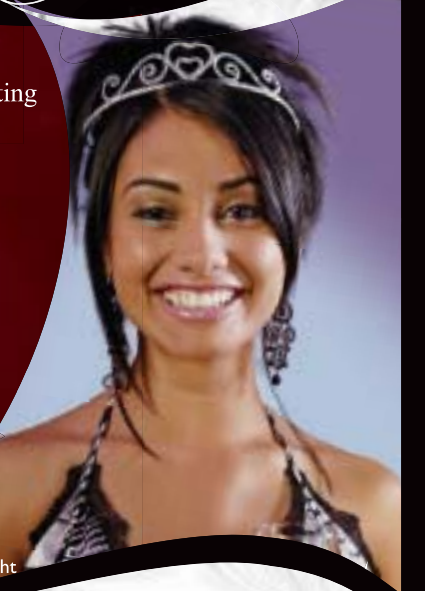
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KOS Media, the publisher of this newspaper, had its stall in the EcoVillage.

Marketing director Richard Purvis said: "As the County Show is the largest event of its kind it is a great way to meet our readers. Our papers always reflect the countryside and the importance of those who live and work in it."

"The Kent countryside, as well as being a valuable resource, is one of the most beautiful parts of England and should be appreciated."



Lyndsay Hopper

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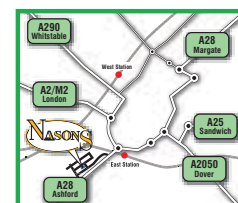


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Wells contest entrants get rocket from veteran Reg

A SHORT-story competition to celebrate the works of HG Wells has failed to attract a single entry – despite the £1,000 prize.

Budding young writers were invited to send their short stories creating a picture of contemporary life in Kent, to Reg Turnill, a former BBC aerospace correspondent who as a young reporter interviewed Wells.



HG WELLS

But due to what Mr Turnill now believes were over-strict rules, he has had to change the entry conditions.

The 94-year-old said: "I wanted people to write the stories by hand as a condition of entry to address the low standard of literacy and handwriting these days.

"It's an important art in itself and many of our most famous authors find that's the best way to do creative writing.

"I also wanted the stories to reflect life in 2010 so they would interest readers in 2110, in the way that Wells' stories do.

"My aim in offering the £1,000 prize was to get people to mimic what Wells did in the 1900s."

Mr Turnill said last year's HG Wells competition entries consisted mostly of sci-fi, so he wanted to be more specific in what this year's should contain.

"Last year there were plenty of entries because the competition was open to writers of all ages and stories could include science fiction, depicting ghastly invasions of our everyday lives by all sorts of nameless horrors," he said.

"This year there is a separate £250 prize for writers aged over 25, and those entries are coming in. But I'm afraid for the younger category my conditions have proved too difficult and I'll have to water them down."

Utopia

The closing date has been extended and sci-fi stories will now be considered. Handwritten stories will get extra marks, but are not obligatory.

The competition forms part of the HG Wells festival in Folkestone, where the author – known as the father of science fiction – spent 13 years of his life.

Wells was one of the most influential writers of the 20th century, famous for novels including *The War of the Worlds*, and *The Invisible Man*.

He penned many of his works during his time in Sandgate, including *The History of Mr Polly*, and *Kipps*, which featured scenes set in the area.

But in 1909, controversy surrounding his novel *A Modern Utopia* led him and his family to move to London.

To celebrate the author's works and mark the 100 years since he left Sandgate, Mr Turnill came up with the idea of an HG Wells festival in 2009. Part of the event was a short-story competition where a 13-year-old boy from the William Harvey Grammar scooped the prize.

But coming into its second year, the festival – which runs from September 17-19 at the Grand Hotel on the Leas – has been unable to attract entries.

The £1,000 prize is due to be presented by HG Wells' great-grandson, Dominic Wells.

Judges of the short-story competition include novelist Sandra Howard, wife of former Tory leader Michael Howard.

The festival will be opened by Alex Wells, great-great-grandson of HG Wells.

To download an entry form for the competition or for information about the festival, visit www.wellsfestival.com.

Privatisation worry over NHS shake-up



A MASSIVE overhaul of the NHS could lead to profits being put before patients, warns Kent's representative for the British Medical Association, **writes Steve Knight**.

The shake-up announced by the Government this week would lead to the abolition of the county's three primary care trusts and give GPs far more power as to how taxpayers' money is spent.

But critics fear it is an attempt by the Con-Lib coalition to privatise the 62-year-old institution. They say many doctors do not have the financial know-how and will instead hire third-party firms to manage their budgets, leading to them purchasing cheaper services from other private sector firms.

Kent BMA spokesman Dr Paul Hobday said the NHS might as well rename itself the National Health Business if the proposals get the go-ahead.

"There will be a conflict of interests and profits will be put before patients," he said.

"Things could end up getting quite incestuous [if private firms buy their own services] and it will be the taxpayer who misses out because a lot of the NHS will end up in private hands.

"As it stands, business will win rather than the patients and it's a recipe for scandalous waste. Giving more power to GPs sounds like a good thing – and it will be if it's safeguarded with a system where patients are referred without any financial incentive. But unfortunately that's not going to happen, because the Government doesn't want it to happen."

Kent is home to three primary care trusts – Eastern and Coastal Kent, Medway, and West Kent – that will be scrapped under the coalition proposals.

Interference

The Government says the new GP-led structure will be held accountable by an independent NHS board free from political interference, while responsibility for public health will be passed to local authorities.

Strategic health authorities will also be scrapped. Graham Hills, operational director of the patient group the Kent Local Involvement Network (LINKs) said: "I think it is the right way to go, in terms of who is better to buy health care on your behalf – and who is better than your family doctor?"

"I welcome the bottom-up approach. The worrying thing is that when GP fund-holding was around it was not a level playing field because some doctors had more money than others. One of the key things is making sure these consortiums have the same purchasing power, because there are health inequalities already within the county.

"Life expectancy in Sevenoaks is more than in Thanet, and that has to be addressed."

The Government will now consult on its plans before rolling them out over the next three years. Last week NHS West Kent chief executive Steve Phoenix told KOS Media he hoped the coalition did not make any rash decisions. He said: "I would personally prefer to see the incoming administration, who I know are impatient to make changes and improvements, take their time.

"Time is needed to air out the inevitable questions and queries that will come up."

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Boris Island attack

AN EARLY Day Motion criticising the "ill-conceived" formation of a group supporting the controversial Boris Island proposal has been signed by Kent MPs.

The motion – tabled by Sittingbourne and Sheppey Tory MP Gordon Henderson – says London Mayor Boris Johnson's plan for an airport in the Thames Estuary would be "economically unviable" and "environmentally unsafe".

It has also been signed by Chatham and Aylesford MP Tracey Crouch and Rochester and Strood MP Mark Reckless.

Mr Henderson said: "This proposal is pie in the sky and I would question why any colleagues would promote it."

KENT County Council has won an anti-age discrimination award for its community wardens project. The authority picked up the prize in the Best Public Sector – Innovation category at the 2010 Employers Forum on Age (EFA) and Employers Forum on Belief (EFB) Awards.

To view, search 'Lounge'
@ yourkenttv.co.uk



Enjoy a montage of clips from last weekend's Lounge on the Farm festival in Canterbury

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St. Augustine

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THE INTERVIEW

BY JANE CONNOLLY

Juicy slice of Southern boogie

BURNING the midnight oil has resulted in an impressive debut album by Tonbridge-based band, MelonHeadMan.

Lead vocalist and guitarist Simon Savage has been putting in the hours on *The Good and The Bad*, due for release in August, in order to follow his passion for music.

"I did all the backing tracks in one night, starting at 4pm and finishing at 4am," he said. "I wasn't getting much sleep and there were some fraught moments, like the software crashing just before it had to go for mastering. It was about 3am and I was thinking, 'I can't do it any more, I'm going to leave', but I pulled myself together."

"Then I had to go and do a gig and I was so tired, I found it so hard to get up and do it. But then the adrenaline kicks in and you pull it out of the bag."

All the hard work has produced an album which showcases MelonHeadMan's 'boogie metal', alternatively described as rock with a country and bluegrass edge. Drawing on influences such as Lynyrd Skynyrd and Black Crowes, the band has been winning fans in the most unlikely places.

"I think people actually don't get it, but when they come along and see us, they think it's excellent and like what we do," Savage, 43, said.

"Southern rock is big now and people around here are getting into it, that's for sure. We've supported a few bands that are real, classic English rock and gone down a storm. That's really good because they've come to see another band, but they like us and buy the CD."

An artist by day, Savage has been involved with music all his life and despite the long hours spent on the first album, he already has ideas for the next.

"You need to get inspired again and I think what we've got are good, catchy hooks," he said. "When we play, I note what the audience does and if they like a song, we'll do it again. You might really like a song and think, 'why don't they get that?' But you want people to dance and if you can't do that, it's no good. You don't want to be the sort of band where blokes stand at the bar, looking at you."

While still balancing his art work with the band, Savage is looking to the future and hopes to release new songs as singles.

"I've always seen it as taking one step at a time, as in, 'Let's get the album out, get people buying it and play the songs live like they sound on the CD'," he said. "The aim next year is to play festivals and get dance remixes of our songs done, because it's good to get some crossover and I have no problem with that."

Find out more at www.myspace.com/melonheadman.



IN THE ROUND:
Seated, Rob Landau; front row, from left, Melody Savage, Simon Savage; standing from left, Sam Woods, Pete Dommett, Ted Rogers and Tim Farmer

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Academy status attracts cream of Kent's schools

SOME of Kent's highest achieving schools seem destined to break away from local authority control as they push to become academies.

Eleven of those rated 'outstanding' by Ofsted have already started formal proceedings to become academies, just six weeks after education secretary Michael Gove invited all schools to apply. Subject to Parliamentary approval of the academies bill, the schools could change as soon as September.

Under the bill, schools converting to academies would be given more independence and responsibility – despite remaining publicly funded – including the ability to set their own pay for staff, greater control of their budget, and freedom from the National Curriculum as well as their local council.

The latest figures released this week showed 95 schools in Kent and nine in Medway had expressed an interest with the Department of Education in becoming academies.

But – unlike the Labour academies policy which focused on poorly performing schools – high-achieving primaries and secondaries, including grammars, are being encouraged by the new Government to change to academies, with a fast-track process being proposed for those rated 'outstanding'.

By **MARIJKE COX**

These schools will be offered a one-off £25,000 payment of an Academy Conversion Grant.

The move has come under fire by County Hall officials and education experts who believe the plans are favouring high ability schools.

A report due to be discussed by KCC's education department next week, touched on the detrimental effect the new academy policy could have in terms of funding and equality.

It stated: "New academies should receive the same level of per-pupil funding as local authority maintained schools. However, new academies will also receive a share of the local authority budget that currently provides for central services and will receive substantial top-up funding to meet their additional responsibilities."

The report stressed the policy was not creating a "level playing field" for schools in the county.

KCC leader Paul Carter has urged headteachers to exercise "extreme caution" before agreeing to become academies because not enough information on the scheme had been released.

Gravesend-based independent education advisor Peter Read, said: "There will be four categories of schools – grammars, new BSF schools, those that go without and, the fourth, academies," he said. "This means the schools

SCHOOLS UNDERGOING THE FORMAL ACADEMY PROCESS

PRIMARY

- Chiddingstone CofE Primary School, Edenbridge
- The Canterbury Primary School (Federation with The Canterbury High School)
- Woodgrove Primary School (Federation with The Westlands School), Sittingbourne

SECONDARY

- Castle Community College, Deal
- Dartford Grammar School (boys)
- Fulston Manor, Sittingbourne
- Highsted Grammar School, Sittingbourne
- Sandwich Technology School
- The Canterbury High School (Federation with The Canterbury Primary School)
- The Chatham House Grammar School (Federation with The Clarendon House Grammar School), Ramsgate
- The Clarendon House Grammar School (Federation with The Chatham House Grammar School), Ramsgate
- The Hayesbrook School, Tonbridge
- The Westlands School (Federation with Woodgrove Primary School), Sittingbourne

Come up with Kent cocktail for food festival

THE team behind this year's Broadstairs Food Festival has promised a bigger and better event than last year's successful inaugural event.

The festival will be held over six days in the autumn, but to drum up some early anticipation for the event a special cocktail is to be devised.

Members of the public are invited to put forward suggestions for what will become the festival's flagship drink.

It will be mixed by the owner of Harpers bar and restaurant, Dan Sciluna, and served at some of the key events through the festival, which runs from September 28 to October 3.

Festival organiser Bill Hackney, said: "The only rule for the drink's ingredients is that they come from Kent."

"It could be a fruit or a drink, but we need to find something original that will make it unique."

Proud

To put forward your suggestion email info@broadstairsfoodfestival.com and also suggest a name for the blended drink. The winner will receive a hamper.

A festival spokesman said: "This year the Broadstairs Food Festival builds on the huge success of last year, by celebrating even more produce."

"There are even more stalls and food outlets and we are proud to launch the Broadstairs Children's Food Festival, which is about developing an appreciation of healthy eating among the children of the town and surrounding areas."

For more information on the festival, visit www.broadstairsfoodfestival.org.uk.

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Retail cash price	£6,945.00		7.9% APR



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Deposit	£2,759.00	Total amount payable	£11,109.20
Acceptance fee*	£125.00	Option to purchase fee**	£60.00
Optional final payment	£4,459.00	Excess mileage (per mile)	4.23p
Retail cash price	£9,790.00		7.9% APR



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Deposit	£4,492.03	Total amount payable	£17,057.03
Acceptance fee†	£125.00	Option to purchase fee**	£60.00
Optional final payment	£5,890.00	Excess mileage (per mile)	4.23p
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Give us benefit of the doubt, new County Hall chief asks the public

KENT County Council needs to improve its relationship with the people it serves, admits the authority's new group managing director, **writes Steve Knight**.

Katherine Kerswell, who succeeds chief executive Peter Gilroy, officially joined County Hall last week and has already identified a key area where the council could improve.

"Kent connects well with residents in some aspects but there's always more we can do," said the 47-year-old former Northants County Council chief.

"I want people to feel like we're on their side and would like the public to be in a position where they give us the benefit of the doubt. No council will ever make everyone happy, but KCC is trying really hard to do just that.

"Take the pothole situation, for instance. There's been significant investment in fixing the problem, but I'm sure there are still people out there who think the council is doing nothing.

"But we can't receive that benefit of the doubt just by switching it on. We have to build that relationship up, and I don't think that's ever really been tried before in Kent."

KOS Media revealed in March how Mrs Kerswell had been criticised by Northants councillors for delivering a confusing motivational speech in which she advised staff to "taste the strawberry" as a metaphor for customer culture.

And while she has no plans to bring the slogan to Kent, Mrs Kerswell warned residents to expect a great deal of other changes in the near future as the authority tackles a £200 million funding shortfall.

"These are very challenging times for public services," she said. "But it's important that when you're tackling these issues you don't

just flit around the edges, because if you do you risk making things worse. Now is the opportunity to take bold steps regarding what public services could look like in future, and I'm concentrating on three main questions to get us through the next five years.

"First, how do we grow the economy of Kent and bring more jobs into the county; second, how do we deliver public services in a way that enables citizens to take control of what they want; and third, how do we tackle the social divides that exist here?"

"We don't yet know the full extent of the funding cuts we will have to deal with but we are working on ways to become more efficient.

"We will know in the autumn where the Government thinks the cuts should happen, and that's when we will start talking to residents and asking for their opinions on how things should be done."

Before to her time in Northants, Mrs Kerswell also worked as chief executive of Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council in the West Midlands, and Redditch Borough Council in Worcestershire.

She is currently a non-executive director of the Department of Education, as well as the president of the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (Solace).

Mrs Kerswell will earn £197,000 a year in the job, which is the same as the wage she earned from her previous employer.

"I didn't come here for the salary," she said. "KCC has been one of the leading lights in local government and I've been impressed with its organisation for many years.

"When this job came up it was such an exciting feeling. I knew it was a chance to be involved with something really amazing."



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Women bishops are 'logical next step'

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

ARCHBISHOP of Canterbury Dr Rowan Williams' right-hand man has welcomed a decision by the Church of England's ruling body to allow the ordination of female bishops.

Bishop of Dover Trevor Willmott – who runs the Canterbury diocese in Dr Williams' absence – was a member of the steering committee that led discussions during this week's historic meeting of the General Synod.

He told KOS Media the ordination of female bishops was the logical next step following previous decisions to allow women to become priests and deacons.

"Everyone knows I'm in favour of women bishops," said Bishop Willmott. "But I'm also in favour of keeping the Church together, which is a difficult task shared by most members of the synod."

"As far as I'm concerned the Christian faith says there is no distinction between male and female, so God is calling women to share in the ministry of the church."

"It therefore seems right and proper that they should be allowed to become bishops, and perhaps we should have been clearer on this issue when the decisions were made regarding female priests and deacons in 1987 and 1992."

"I always knew it was something we would come to eventually, and now we have."

The draft law approved by the General



IN FAVOUR: The Rev Lorna Cleveland with Archbishop Dr Rowan Williams

Synod must now receive approval from a majority of the Church's 44 dioceses.

It must then return to the synod and receive a two-thirds majority vote, before receiving parliamentary approval and finally the Royal Assent.

Traditionalist Anglicans who opposed the move have been given minimal concessions, but leading figures in the Church say it is now inevitable that dissatisfied members will leave.

However, the Rev Lorna Cleveland – associate priest of the United Wye Benefice,

near Canterbury – said the decision to ordain women bishops was long overdue.

She added: "We need to move forward and we need to move forward together. If you go back to theology then men and women were redeemed at the same time, so we are equal."

"I think most churchgoers think the whole thing is a nonsense. A lot of people I've encountered who said women shouldn't be priests have ended up saying, 'Actually, she's not bad after all'."

"But most of the people in the pews just want us to get on with it."

In an attempt to appease those who were opposed to plans for women bishops, the archbishops of Canterbury and York tabled a suggestion that a male co-bishop could be

appointed in dioceses unhappy with a female working on her own.

However, the synod has decided that women bishops should now be able to decide the identity and functions of any such co-worker.

Before the decision was made, North Thanet Tory MP Roger Gale – a parliamentary supporter of Women in the Church (Watch) – wrote a letter to Dr Williams asking him to reconsider his amendment.

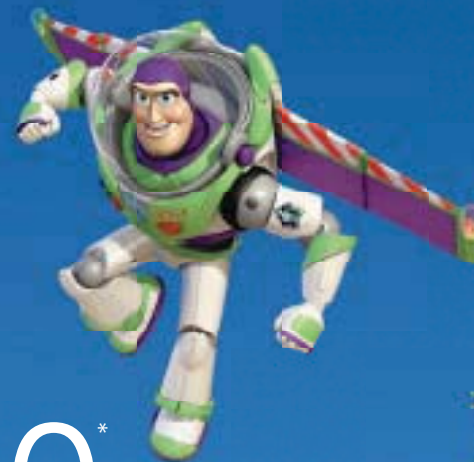
He said: "It's a proposition that is morally and intellectually unacceptable. Either women are good enough to rise to the top or they are not, and I believe that they are."

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Defibrillators cash a matter of life and death

A FUNDRAISING appeal has been launched to buy equipment that could save heart attack victims.

The British Heart Foundation and Kent Police want to place much-needed defibrillators in key areas across the county.

Kent Police say officers routinely attend incidents where members of the public have suffered cardiac arrest, particularly on motorways and town centres.

Police regularly arrive on scene

before the ambulance service and a defibrillator, which delivers an electrical shock to the heart, could keep people alive before the paramedic teams arrive.

This means those vital few minutes before an ambulance can arrive, could literally mean the difference between life and death.

Gillingham fan Peter Keating suffered a heart attack at Priestfield Stadium and his life was saved by the defibrillator kept at the club.

He said: "I'm so glad Priestfield had a defibrillator on site that day.

"However, the story could have been very different, I could have been on my way to or from the game and would have needed an emergency response vehicle to save me."

Kent Police Tactical Medicine Unit manager Paul Abdey said: "When a person's heart stops there is limited time in which to deliver a shock, after that time has passed there is little chance of survival.

"With more defibrillators Kent Police can provide a vital link in the chain of survival so that even more lives can be saved."

Some £25,000 is needed for the defibrillators for Kent, the BHF are looking for big-hearted people to help save lives by raising funds.

If you think you can help then contact Kim Brophy on 01580 754027 or email brophyk@bhf.org.uk or to find out more visit www.bhf.org.uk.



VITAL KIT: Paul Abdey with one of the defibrillators police could carry

Watchdog raises police reform fears with the Home Secretary

KENT Police Authority chairwoman Ann Barnes says there is still time to influence the controversial reforms proposed by the coalition Government, *writes Steve Knight*.

Mrs Barnes – who is also vice-chair of the Association of Police Authorities – met with Home Secretary Theresa May last week to discuss, among other issues, plans to replace police authorities with directly-elected commissioners.

The former schoolteacher has spoken out about the proposals in the past, voicing her fears that such individuals may be politically-motivated and more concerned about appeas-

ing voters than doing what is right for policing.

However, Mrs Barnes said she was "encouraged" by her meeting with Mrs May and is confident her views are being taken on board.

She said: "Although there is a commitment for a directly-elected individual, there's no model for it and no firm proposals about it.

"KPA has independent members as well as those from Labour, the Conservatives and the Lib Dems, who come from all over Kent and have a good balance of views and concerns.

"I think it would be very difficult for one person to bring all those qualities to the table, but Mrs May's response was that she's listening to us.

"At the end of the day it's not about me or my members. It's about what's best for policing

and the people of Kent and Medway, but I do have to say I think we've done a really good job.

"We hold the Chief Constable to account and Kent Police is one of the top performing forces in the country. That doesn't happen by accident."

The Association of Police Authorities has been asked to submit a paper detailing areas they feel must be considered before any major changes are introduced by the Government.

Organised crime

The Home Office will then release its own paper at the end of July, which Mrs Barnes says she hopes will put "flesh on the bones" and give a better idea of how the Government sees the future of policing and accountability.

Meanwhile, Metropolitan Police Commissioner Sir Paul Stephenson spoke on the subject of elected individuals during an appearance on Radio 4's the Today programme on Tuesday.

One of his main concerns was that spending priorities go further than local boundaries and therefore might not appeal to voters who would rather see the cash spent on neighbourhood policing. Sir Paul implied that it could lead to would-be commissioners placing less emphasis on serious organised crime as a result.

Mrs Barnes said: "During these difficult financial times we won't take frontline police away if we can help it, but we have to balance it against the other spending priorities a lot of people don't really know about. Sir Paul makes a good point."

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By helping their children, many parents are landing themselves in serious debt

Bank of mum and dad is empty

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

DEBT-ridden youngsters who depend on their parents to bail them out have been blamed for an increase in bankruptcy among the over-55s.

According to the Consumer Credit Counselling Service (CCCS), mums and dads who pay off their children's student loans or help them onto the property ladder by providing money for deposits are risking insolvency themselves.

The charity says that 16.1 per cent of those who went bankrupt in Kent last year were over 55, compared to just 15.1 per cent nationally.

Equity release manager Tom Moloney told KOS Media families should seek advice before deciding how to tackle large debts.

He said: "Parents are providing a lot more support to their children, but in many cases this support is not manageable and they end up in serious financial trouble themselves."

"There should be nothing wrong with mums and dads wanting to help their children, but both sides should get expert

advice first to make sure the resources are there to carry the debt.

"Sometimes it's better to help the children manage their own finances, as it's often a lot more difficult for over-55s to take on a second job, for example.

"Debt problems are stressful at any age but particularly hard to deal with at a time of your life when you would have expected to be more settled financially.

"I would urge anyone in Kent who is worried about their debts to seek help from a debt charity as soon as possible because the earlier you seek help, the more can be done to help you."

To tackle the rising trend of parents

going bankrupt, the CCCS has launched the subsidiary firm CCCS Equity Release to provide free advice to people with financial problems.

Equity release allows homeowners to release money from a property worth at least £60,000, but is only available for over-55s and is usually only considered as a last resort.

Mr Moloney said: "We can give advice to young

adults and help them put a plan in place that doesn't involve them borrowing money from their parents, and can also provide a safe environment for parents to explore their equity release options.

"You're never going to be able to stop the bank of mum and dad completely, but we're here to make sure it runs okay."

The CCCS runs a free debt counselling service at www.cccs.co.uk.

Alternatively call the charity's freephone hotline on 0800 138 111, which is open between 8am-8pm, Monday to Friday.



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Ex-soldier reunited with his family after Afghan jail ordeal

BILL Shaw, the former soldier acquitted of bribery by an Afghan appeal court, has met up with his family in a tearful reunion in Dubai.

Mr Shaw, a 52-year-old former Army Major whose daughter Lisa lives in Dover, was found guilty of bribing officials in March.

But the former military policeman, who has been awarded the MBE, always said he thought he was paying a legitimate fee to ensure the return of vehicles - and on Sunday, July 4, he was acquitted.

The appeal court cited lack of evidence as the reason for dropping the charges.

Four days later, he was released from jail and, after spending some time with work colleagues from security firm GS4 in Afghanistan, flew to Dubai.

There he was joined by wife Liz; daughter Lisa Luckyn-Malone and two sons.

It was hoped that Mr Shaw would fly back to the UK with his family this week.



HERO: Bill Shaw on the day he was awarded the MBE



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Get on your bike for charity

CYCLING star Kristian House (pictured in white) is urging people to get on their bikes to raise money for the Prostate Cancer Charity. The Canterbury-born former British Road Race champion is one of the backers of the charity's 2010 tour rides event, which allows cyclists to raise money by tackling sections of the Tour of Britain route.

Distances range from 2km to 175km, and riders can choose to take part at one of three locations around the UK, including London.

Visit www.tourofbrtaintain.co.uk for more information on the Prostate Cancer Charity Tour Rides.

A NOTORIOUS bank robber who once rubbed shoulders with the Krays is to address the Government on plans to create 'rehabilitation villages' for offenders, *writes Marijke Cox*.

Bobby Cummines, who turned his back on the criminal world after 13 years in jail, has produced the proposals in response to the UK's high re-offending rate and overcrowded prisons.

And despite his background, the former criminal – convicted of possession of a sawn-off shotgun aged just 16 – is determined to help others find a way out of crime.

As chief executive of Unlocked, a Snodland-based charity helping people with previous convictions, and as a former advisor to Tony Blair's Government, Mr Cummines thinks this is possible on a large scale.

"I know what it's like to live that life," he said.

"I was in prison for 13 years. For some of these youngsters, you send them to jail and they come out trained in organised crime.

"My recommendation to the new Government is our Diamond Project, which puts all organisations needed to reduce offending in one place, at the heart of the community.

"I want to make sure they stay out of prison and get them qualified in a trade and keep them off the dole."

The ex-con, who lives in Ashford, plans to use private

Ex-robber's offenders' village plan



Bobby Cummines

swipe cards so their whereabouts could be monitored.

As for locations, after initial hopes of developing the Dover barracks were dashed, Mr Cummines is again on the look-out for a site in Kent.

"This is not something taxpayers will pay for – we are raising money through private investment," he said.

"It won't just be for low-risk offenders either, but the long-term unemployed.

"It will also be available for people in need. This is not something we want members of the public to fear.

"It will create jobs and leisure activities and make sure the 'pests' who would be committing crime are instead training for a job."

Architects' plans are already drawn with private investors behind the multi-million project ready to purchase land, once available.

"I'm speaking to the Ministry of Justice this month and hopefully we can move forward," said Mr Cummines.

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Economy could bee in danger

By **MARIJKE COX**

marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

SURVIVAL of the honeybee is the focus of a new study aimed at saving their dwindling population by using the full weight of the law.

It follows a dramatic dip in numbers in recent years as Kent beekeepers have witnessed a 50 per cent reduction in the amount of honey being produced.

Pesticides

Parasites and pesticides are being blamed for the drop, with wildlife campaigners calling on the Government to investigate the situation.

Exportation of honeybees as their population declines around the world has also led to calls for tighter restrictions to be put in place.

University of Greenwich at Medway law lecturer Dr Opi Outhwaite, who has an interest in agricultural health, environment and bio-security legislation and regulation, is conducting research into the decline.

Her findings will be presented to the National Bee Unit, part of Government's Food and Environment Research Agency, in September.

"Bee colonies across the world have been declining as a result of a combination of problems including pests and diseases such as varroa, a parasitic mite which is

Efforts to use the law to tackle declining bee population issue



Dr Opi Outhwaite

now endemic in the UK, foul brood and small hive beetle," she said.

"Bees are regularly imported, exported and moved around the world.

"Part of my research will include reviewing the laws and procedures governing the import of bees into the UK, through the European Union and beyond, as well as the movement across England and Wales.

"I will be looking closely at the statutory regulations around hive inspections and the reporting of bee and hive pests and diseases, including the procedures and obligations for beekeepers to report diseases within their own colonies."

A third of all foodstuffs are dependant on pollination by honeybees, which also provide more than 50 per cent of the pollination of wild plants that the majority of other wildlife depends on.

Dr Outhwaite said: "Honeybees do not only produce honey and wax. They are valuable pollinators for our crops and play an essential role in sustaining our environment."

Wildlife expert Kerry King, from Hythe, said a decline in honeybees

should be a top priority for Government.

"If we lose them, this country's economy will get into an even worse state," he said.

"This would be even more devastating than unemployment. Without honeybees we wouldn't be able to grow fruit – it would mean the end for a lot of farmers.

"We would have to import all our fruit and wouldn't be able to export it – the economy would be badly affected."

Mr King also echoed Dr Outhwaite's views that there needed to be tighter restrictions on the movement of bees.

"With bees being such a big part of the economy, if they begin to decline they will be in demand which could lead to poaching," he said. There has got to be restrictions and controls put in place."

Prioritise

A report by conservation trust Buglife last year suggested the removal of one pesticide – the neonicotinoid imidacloprid – could halt the decline, subsequently saving the food chain.

According to the organisation, the pesticide spreads a chemical throughout plants and into the nectar and pollen that bees and other insects then eat.

The authors of the report say they are confident there is scientific evidence to prove this causes bees to forage less and produce fewer offspring.

Mr King said: "People don't realise how important it is to prioritise this – there could be devastating consequences if nothing is done."

Last month plans to import short-haired bumblebees to Dungeness from New Zealand had to be postponed after the creatures died in hibernation.

Tortoises become target for thieves

THE clampdown on buying and owning tortoises has not quelled demand for the reptiles, and now police are concerned they are becoming a target for thieves.

They can only be bought and sold in the UK if they have the correct paperwork from the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, and as such can cost up to £500.

Owners in Dartford are now reporting a series of thefts of tortoises. It's believed at least six have been stolen in recent weeks.

Three spur-thighed tortoises vanished from Sue Holme's garden on June 17, then last week a rare African leopard tortoise called Mini-Me was taken from Melissa Wheeler's garden.

She said: "I am worried someone in Dartford is targeting tortoises, and what's really worrying is the thought they are watching people, because they know where to strike."

"Ours was taken in broad daylight like they were watching and waiting for Mini-Me to be left on his own."

BRIDALWEAR SAMPLE SALE

Heading Up The Aisle are holding their annual Bridal wear sale for just 2 weeks from 27th July starting at 9am

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How hospital food has got back on the menu

IT'S the stuff of culinary nightmares, with a reputation for turning even the strongest of stomachs.

And according to a study by academics at Bournemouth University last year, even prison food can beat it in quality.

But dreaded hospital food has made a dramatic turnaround since an independent inspection in 2008 into six of the county's community hospitals found things were not up to par.

At Whitstable and Tankerton Hospital, ratings were 'poor' while others examined – Faversham Cottage Hospital, Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital in Herne Bay, Sheppey Community Hospital, Sittingbourne Memorial Hospital and Victoria Hospital in Deal – were just 'acceptable', or for the better providers 'good'.

But now, every hospital has been rated as 'excellent' by independent inspectors from the League of Friends, and even the patients heaped praise on the NHS for its food.

Sarah Farbrace, the Patient Environment Action Team (PEAT) leader at NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent Community Services, said

hospital food was no longer the horrible cuisine associated with being ill.

"Before the 2008 inspection we had started working on bringing things up to standard, but it was still in the early process and so one of our hospitals was given a poor rating and others just acceptable," she said.

"We refurbished the kitchens and ward pantries and brought in new equipment. We also upgraded the menu in relation to nutrition and choice.

"We try and use as much fresh local produce as possible and give menus to patients every day so they can choose what they would like to eat."

Abi Mogridge, head of clinical health, nutrition and dietetics at ECKCS NHS, said 40 per cent of patients in hospitals are malnourished.

"This really delays healing. It's so important to have good food in hospital," she said.

"Our menus are colour-coded to show patients more about what they are eating, for example, if it is high in fibre or vegetarian."

People are also able to access snacks throughout the day and night.

Walk for WaterAid

A WALKING event called Coast Along, which raises funds for WaterAid, has been extended to include the Kent coast path running between Faversham and Folkestone.

Organisers say anyone can take part because the paths have been divided into 13 sections of varying lengths and graded from easy to severe.

Money raised will provide safe water, sanitation and hygiene education to those living in poverty in Africa, Asia and the Pacific region.

Palace party invite

FOLKESTONE charity fundraiser Ray Johnson is off to a Buckingham Palace Garden Party on Tuesday, July 20, in recognition of his good work for the community.

This year Mr Johnson completed his 10th London Marathon in aid of the Kent Association for the Blind and raised more than £40,000.

He said: "I'm delighted to have received this invitation and I, wife Carol and son James are looking forward to the event."

Gypsy girls get put in the picture

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

DISPELLING negative stereotypes of young Roma gypsies is the aim of a photographic exhibition.

This weekend is visitors' last chance to visit the Different Culture Photos project at the Harbour Arm Gallery in Margate.

It is part of the New Londoners initiative, which for the past 13 years has worked to improve the lives of the Roma community.

The show was compiled by seven teenage girls living in east London, each of whom worked with Italian photographer Manuela Zanotti to document the transition from childhood to womanhood.

Ms Zanotti said it was important the youngsters were given creative control over the self-portraits featured in the exhibition.

Document

"There's very little photographic evidence of Roma children," she added. "At least very little that has been taken with their consent."

"So I gave them cameras to document their home and school life, basically giving them a voice to say what they wanted to say about themselves, how they see things and what they're all about."

"In many ways young Roma women have a lot in common with your average female teenager, but in other ways they are also very different."

Ms Zanotti has been lecturing and teaching photography at the London College of Communication since 2000, with her signature module being the "family album" as a method to document society through people's private lives.

She was helped on the Different Culture Photos project by Jacob Garber from the Children's Society, which oversees the running of more than 60 national projects including New Londoners.

As well as the photographs taken by the



EXHIBITION: Photographs detail the lives the Roma community's young women

youngsters, the initiative also involved them developing an archive of the Roma community using voice recordings and written accounts of their personal circumstances.

The exhibition has been running in Margate since July 3 and ends on Sunday (July 18).

"Roma children lack the knowledge of how to get on well in life and in society," said Ms Zanotti. "So they often get put at the bottom of the list in terms of education and support."

"But it's also difficult for society to understand the needs of a community that has a very small voice."

"I was extremely pleased with the outcome of the project because what I saw was a real transformation, and I think the girls gained a real insight into what it means to have a voice."

The Different Culture Photos exhibition was funded by Mediabox and the Children's Society, and will be part of the 'Call the Witness' project in next year's Venice Biennale.

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HONOUR: Commanding Officer of 256 Field Hospital (Volunteers), Colonel Peter Gilbert, theatre manager Colin Moss, theatre nurse Claire Andrews and executive director Richard Coggings

Thanks to nurse for war effort

A NURSE has been honoured by the Territorial Army for giving up her free time to treat wounded soldiers in Afghanistan, *writes Steve Knight.*

Mother-of-two Claire Andrews, who works for the privately owned Chaucer Hospital in Canterbury, spent three months caring for seriously injured troops at the British military base of Camp Bastion, near Helmand Province.

She returned from the wartorn nation in January and has since been thanked for her efforts by the London-based Territorial Army 256 Field Hospital (Volunteers).

"I was treating young soldiers who were seriously injured, and many were my son's age (21)," said Mrs Andrews.

"That is actually something I had not considered and at times I found it emotional.

"Since my return people have said to me I seem different, and that I have certainly become more assertive. I am actually quite a calm, quiet person so it really must have had an impact on me.

"But to be honest, nothing can prepare you for what I actually found when I arrived at Camp Bastion. I really had to hit the ground running."

In recognition of her voluntary work, Mrs Andrews received a military print depicting a medical emergency response team treating an injured soldier in Afghanistan.

The ceremony was performed by Col Peter Gilbert – commanding officer of 256 Field Hospital – who also dedicated it to the Chaucer staff for allowing Mrs Andrews to take the necessary time off.

Col Gilbert said: "Claire was part of such an amazingly unified and focused team, and she brought a fantastic level of expertise to the unit.

"The work Claire was involved in was so vital to the operation, and the work was extremely challenging at times."

The Chaucer is run by BMI Healthcare, and its executive director Richard Coggings said: "We're very proud of Claire's efforts and honoured to display the print depicting the heroism of military medicine."

Evacuation in post office fire

POLICE officers led 10 residents to safety after a fire broke out in Staplehurst High Street in the early hours of Wednesday.

The blaze took hold in the post office at 3.30am, quickly spreading into the properties above and

into the roof space of two neighbouring buildings.

A Kent Fire and Rescue Service spokesman said: "No-one is believed to have been injured."

The cause of the fire is not yet known.

Loan facility to stop sharks

AN 'ethical' loans facility designed to keep people away from the jaws of loan sharks has opened for business in Dover.

Kent Savers Credit Union was launched in March.

Kent Savers chief officer, John

Fowler said. "Loans can be paid off through us at an affordable rate of interest without the fear of threat or intimidation."

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Young Ones star to headline the Big Gig

TV FUNNYMAN Adrian Edmondson and his band are the headline act at a festival in Gravesham.

The Bad Shepherds, led by the star of The Young Ones and Bottom, will top the bill of the Big Gig on Friday, July 23, playing punk classics in a folk style.

The free event runs between 6-9.45pm at the Promenade.

Britain's Got Talent semi-finalists Taboo are also on the bill, alongside Jewels Belly Dancers, Cohesion Plus Commission, Stage Arts, and St George's School Fusion Extra.

Hip hop artist Maximus will also perform, as will dance troupe True Kaizen.

INJURED people stuck in the middle of a house fire or other emergency will now get medical help much more quickly.

The 40-strong Hazardous Area Response Team (HART) of paramedics will work closely with other emergency services at the heart of major incidents, where previously they would have been restricted to the sidelines.

Chief executive of the South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust (SECamb), Paul Sutton, said it is a valuable addition to the region.

"As an emergency service, SECamb is of course already trained and experienced in expertly dealing with major incidents and this will continue," he said.

"However, the introduction of HART enhances that experience and capability further still."

Traditionally, ambulance crews relied on firefighters to make an area safe before they

Straight to HART of major incidents

By **MARIJKE COX**

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could access what is known as the 'hot zone' or inner cordon – at potentially dangerous situations, such as fire or chemical threats.

It meant paramedics were unable to get to patients until it was deemed safe.

In other cases, ambulance staff had to wait for the patients – in some cases needing life-saving care – to be brought to them by firefighters.

But following the terror attacks on London on July 7, 2005, where ambulance crews were able to work at the centre of the incident where there was no contamination, health chiefs nationwide began to roll out the HART initiative, funded by the Department of Health.

In Kent, the team of clinicians, based at Brookfields Industrial Estate in Ashford, have undergone intensive preparation.

Search and rescue

As well as training in breathing apparatus and gas-tight chemical suits, each member of the team received lessons in urban search and rescue, and working at heights.

The crew, who now also form the ambulance service's maritime incident response team, will use specialist vehicles, including off-road 4x4s and a state-of-the-art command vehicle.

Matthew England, SECamb's HART manager, said the new team will significantly enhance the service at major incidents across Kent, Sussex and Surrey.



LIFE-SAVERS: Hazardous Area Response Team are trained to work in dangerous situations while giving life-saving treatment

"It will allow patients who are trapped – or in areas previously deemed unsafe for ambulance staff to enter – the opportunity to receive clinical care at a much earlier stage than has been previously possible," he said.

"Traditionally, at certain incidents, the ambulance service relies on firefighters making the scene safe before entering or has to wait for fire crews to bring patients to us.

"Fire crews will of course still perform this vital role, but HART clinicians will be able to remove patients from smoke-filled environments, for example, and have received the necessary specialist training to enable them to bring high-quality care to those patients who urgently require it."

When not responding to HART calls, the team will provide additional support with two single response vehicles and carry out a rigorous training schedule.

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TWO OF Kent's rookie MPs experienced contrasting fortunes as the Prime Minister's public endorsement of one was preceded by the drunken embarrassment of his colleague, *writes Steve Knight*.

Rochester and Strood representative Mark Reckless was forced to issue a grovelling apology to his constituents after drinking so much alcohol in the Westminster bar he missed a crucial vote on the Budget.

The Conservative member's late-night antics came just hours before fellow Tory and Dartford MP Gareth Johnson was appointed to the Justice Departmental Support Group, which has been set up by PM David Cameron to help the work of the Ministry of Justice.

Mr Reckless – who is also a member of the Kent Police Authority – apologised on BBC Radio Kent about his drunken behaviour, but denied reports that last week's boozing caused him to fall asleep in the House of Commons.

Shame of drunk MP, but fellow new boy offered top justice role

He said: "I made a mistake and I'm really sorry about it. I remember someone asking me to vote and not thinking it was appropriate, given how I was at the time."

"If I was in the sort of situation generally where I thought I was drunk, I tend to go home. "Westminster is a very special situation and all I can say is, given this very embarrassing experience, I don't intend to drink there again."

Mr Reckless was one of dozens of MPs who took advantage of the subsidised Westminster bars during a six-hour drinking session that went into the early hours of the morning on Wednesday, July 7, and

racked up a massive £5,000 tab between them.

But despite the incident he will not be punished by the Kent Police Authority, which asks its members to abide by a strict code of conduct.

Chairwoman Ann Barnes said no further action would be taken because Mr Reckless' behaviour was unrelated to his role with the KPA.

She added: "I have seen the media coverage relating to Mark and have spoken to him personally. I have noted the very public apologies that have been both published and broadcasted."

"The conduct of KPA members is governed by a heavily regulated code and framework over-

seen by an independent standards committee."

Meanwhile, Dartford MP Mr Johnson described it as a "genuine privilege" to be appointed to the Justice Departmental Support Group, adding that his 20 years' experience as a lawyer will assist Justice Secretary Kenneth Clarke with the work of his department.

He added: "I am really looking forward to supporting the new government as a member of this support group."

"I have built up a fair amount of experience with the way our judicial system works and I welcome the opportunity to put that experience to good use."

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Liverpool have enjoyed a far more successful season on the track than on the pitch in recent times, with the Reds' car winning the championship in 2009, but Spurs' Craig Dolby leads the way this year after a series of stunning drives, with three wins so far.

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Crypt exhibits priceless 12th century manuscript as experts gather for conference

Cathedral to display text which helped shape Magna Carta

By **MARIJKE COX**

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A PRICELESS manuscript believed to have influenced the authors of the Magna Carta is to go on display.

The historic Textus Roffensis, written by a monk of St Andrew's Priory in Rochester during the 12th century, will be exhibited in Rochester Cathedral's crypt from Monday to Wednesday, July 26-28, for the first time in six years.

It will also be the focus of a three-day conference, organised by the University of Kent in Medway to coincide with the display. Textus Roffensis is made up of two books bound together some time after 1300. The first contains one of the most important surviving collections of Anglo-Saxon laws; and the second the oldest of Rochester Cathedral's registers.

It was viewed as so significant in its day it influenced the barons who wrote the Magna Carta – one of the most celebrated documents in history.

The Magna Carta required King John to accept to be bound by the law, and protected certain rights of the King's subjects.

Written in 1123 AD, the manuscript – which goes by the full name of Textus de Ecclesia Roffensi per Ernulphum episcopum, translated as 'The Book of the Church of Rochester through Bishop Ernulf' – has survived thefts, the Dissolution of the monasteries, civil war, two world wars and a dip in the River Medway. During the conference, organised by

Professor Sir Robert Worcester, chancellor of the University of Kent, scholars will look at the context of the creation of the document.

They will address the language of its texts; English laws and their legal, political and cultural agendas; the relationship of the Church and royal government; and the legacy of the book.

Kenneth Fincham, professor of early modern history and head of the university's school of history, said: "Textus Roffensis holds some of the most significant texts issued by England's various early medieval kingdoms going back to the laws of King Ethelbert of Kent."

Sir Robert said: "This is the first occasion where scholars of medieval history and others who study the importance of this period have gathered anywhere in the world specifically to exchange knowledge about the role of the Textus Roffensis in the history of England."

"It can be argued that the history of England began in Kent over 1,400 years ago. The arrival in 597 of St Augustine, sent by Pope Gregory, with the mission to introduce the pagan people of Kent and nearby kingdoms not only to Christianity but also to written history."

"The mission and letters were directed at King Ethelbert to the people of Kent in their own language, Cantwara. Before he died in around 617, he equipped his subjects with a codified statement of law, the first surviving text of any type written by, as well as for, Englishmen."

• For more details, visit www.kent.ac.uk/history/Events/textusroffensis.html.



PRICELESS: Textus Roffensis was written in Kent during the 12th century

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SOHO SHORTS: Cannon, directed by Jonathan Dennis, left, and Lobster Club, an animation by Milo Waterfield



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Movie hot-shots aim at festival accolades

TWO movie makers have been shortlisted for the upcoming Rushes Soho Shorts – one of the UK's leading short film festivals – later this month.

Lobster Club was directed by Milo Waterfield, made in Herne Bay and is up for an award in the animation category.

The plot centres around a sex tourist in a land somewhere beyond the sea. He arrives in a sun-soaked yet boring paradise, goes for a swim and is captured by lobsters.

Cannon, directed by Jonathan Dennis, was made in Tunbridge Wells and is in the broadcast design category. Television viewers will be familiar with this as an advert

showing a cow being shot from a cannon to make milkshakes.

The non-profit Rushes Soho Shorts is acclaimed around the world and 170 films from 23 countries have been selected for the competition. Budgets in this year's entries ran from a mere £50 up to £2 million.

The London-based festival attracts talented newcomers, rising stars and even those with long-established careers.

The countries represented include Bangladesh, New Zealand, Lithuania, Uganda, Russia, Ivory Coast, the Bahamas, Croatia, USA and the UK.

The awards ceremony will be held on Thursday, July 29.



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Rural broadband boost

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

PLANS to give every community in Kent access to decent broadband connections have taken a key step forward.

The county council has provided almost half a million pounds to wire up nearly a dozen villages and the work is set to continue. Many rural areas have become known as broadband 'not-spots' because they are too far from telephone exchanges. The greater the distance, the poorer the connection.

But using new equipment, the signal can now be boosted to distant communities.



CONNECTED: Villages in Kent are getting access to better broadband services

KCC has spent £486,000 to eliminate a dozen not-spots and plans to tackle more.

Businesses increasingly rely on good internet connections and 90 per cent of Kent's firms are small or medium-size enterprises, so it is crucial they get a good quality service. Remote areas can ask County Hall for financial help to get them connected.

A KCC official said: "We also offer guidance in what to ask for – and how to go about it."

KCC said money spent so far had helped get thousands of households online, including in Elmsted, Milstead and Selsted, Barham, Sutton, Tilmanstone, Ulcombe, and now most recently in Iwade, Kings Hill, Selling and Womenswold.

The official added: "So far, £486,000 has been paid in grants and this has benefited 6,800 properties. Now only 21,026 remain and there may be more grants next year."

The £13,000 grant for the parish of Iwade meant BT was commissioned to deliver fibre-optic cables to what is called the 'cabinet'.

This is the main connection for the parish, and from there it uses telephone wires to deliver the signal. This means Iwade's 1,350 homes could get speeds of up to 40Mb.

BT says it is investing £2.5 billion to deliver fibre-based broadband to two-thirds of the UK by 2015. John Weaver, BT's South East director, said: "Ours is one of the biggest commercial investments in fibre-optics in the world and we are prepared to invest further if others will work with us."

"Our partnership with Iwade is a great example of this and we're keen to work on similar projects."

Super-fast

Nicola McKenzie, broadband committee co-ordinator for Iwade Parish Council, said: "We have worked hard to give residents and businesses the option to sign up to super-fast broadband. The faster connections offered by fibre-optics will allow people to get even more out of the internet."

KCC cabinet member for corporate support services and performance management Cllr Roger Gough, said: "For most people, having this kind of access is part of everyday life."

"The internet provides a crucial link and it is important rural communities have access to the latest technology."

"Broadband is essential for business to expand and it provides people with a social network, too."

"This is one step closer to our goal of having complete coverage across the county so everyone can benefit from the internet."

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MP supports anonymity plan for rape defendants

A TORY MP has given his backing to controversial plans to grant anonymity to rape defendants.

The comments from Gillingham and Rainham MP Rehman Chishti follow an announcement by justice minister Crispin Blunt confirming Government plans to bring forward legislation.



Rehman Chishti

In his first Commons speech, Mr Chishti said: "Recent experience has demonstrated there are occasions when defendants have been unjustly and falsely accused of sexual crimes."

"Extreme suffering is caused to victims as well as to those accused in these cases, thus it is necessary to address these questions and face the challenges they present head on."

"The effect on those wrongly accused of serious sexual offences by the publication of their names and the revelation of their identities can have long-term, far-reaching and disastrous unintended consequences."

Safeguards

Mr Chishti, who is a barrister and has defended and prosecuted in criminal cases, added: "We still have a system in which people are innocent until proven guilty."

"If safeguards are required to reinforce that in sexual cases, they should be put in place as a matter of urgency."

"A restriction until charge does not go far enough, as the test for charging is a reasonable prospect of conviction and thus far lower than the standard required for conviction by a jury."

Mr Chishti's views were not shared by many female MPs.

Louise Bagshawe, the Conservative MP for Corby, said: "By singling out rape in this way, ministers are sending a negative signal about women and those who accuse men of rape."

Anna Soubry another Tory MP and former barrister, warned the plans left the Conservative Party open to the accusation that it did not believe in the proper prosecution of people accused of rape.

The Government will now hold informal talks with the police, rape charities and the media and a further announcement is expected to be made in September.



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Singing *can* beat the blues

By **MARIJKE COX**

marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

A **UNIQUE** study into the effects of music on mental health has found that singing can be key to people avoiding depression.

Groundbreaking research by Canterbury Christ Church University found singing improves health and wellbeing – and could even help the health service save money.

So significant was the study that scientists discussed the results at the International Union for Health Promotion and Education in Geneva, Switzerland, this week.

Professor Stephen Clift, director of the university's Sidney De Haan Research Centre, said there were dramatic benefits of using singing to improve health.

Happier

"We have found striking improvements in mental health from involvement in choirs," he said. "Singing together helps people with mental health issues feel happier, better connected with others and more supported."

"It builds confidence and gives a sense of achievement. It also reduces distressing symptoms and problems."

The study, which finished last month, was funded by NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent and was the first of its kind in the UK. A similar study was carried out in the United States which found that as well as improving wellbeing, elderly people

using group singing were less likely to hurt themselves through trips or falls.

And scientists from the University of Frankfurt in Germany published a report suggesting singing strengthened the immune system. The Kent project involved a network of singing groups for people with severe and long-term mental health problems. Seven choirs were set up in 2009 and more than 150 participants were monitored over a 10-month period.

Dr John Rodriguez, assistant director of public health at NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent, said: "Based on what is already known of the benefits of singing groups for older people, the PCT fully supported this project. Evaluation of the study clearly demonstrates the benefits."

During the research, Prof Clift told KOS Media singing could potentially delay the onset of dementia and reduce depression.

He said: "There is now more interest in how simple things can improve wellbeing."

"Group activities such as singing stop elderly people feeling isolated and anxious, which improves their mood and can help deal with issues such as depression. The study will not be able to make any clear conclusions about dementia, but the principle is the more a person remains active the healthier they are going to be." He added: "The study will also allow us to assess whether this could result in substantial cost savings for the NHS and local authority adult services. "If we can prevent a small number of people being hospitalised we can save a considerable amount."



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IN TUNE:
Mental health researchers are singing the praises of joining a choir

Failed candidate on drink-drive charge

A **FORMER** General Election candidate has been suspended from the Labour Party after being charged with drink-driving.

Kathryn Smith, who stood for the Gravesham seat on May 6, crashed her car into a roundabout in Dartford on April 26 and was cut from the vehicle by fire crews.

The 50-year-old, from Cambridge Avenue, Welling, was later charged with drink-driving and will appear before Dartford magistrates on Tuesday, July 27.

A spokesman from the South East Labour Party said Mrs Smith had been administratively suspended until completion of the case.

"It would be inappropriate to comment further while this is ongoing," he said.

Beeb pay poll-axed

THE vast majority of kentnews.co.uk readers who voted in an online poll believe the BBC's stars should be paid less. Some 81 per cent of voters said yes to the question: 'Should the BBC's high-earners take a pay cut?'

Go to kentnews.co.uk to vote on whether the Church of England should allow women priests.

Fishing outing sea dip ends in tragedy

A **MAN** died after being pulled from the sea off Margate when a boat trip went badly wrong.

The 48-year-old Margate man had gone out in an inflatable pleasure dinghy with a friend on Friday, July 9. They had gone fishing, but the man jumped in to take a swim.

The other man, aged 26 and also from Margate, became concerned when his friend appeared to get into difficulties in the water.

The RNLI inshore lifeboat brought the man to the shore, where attempts were made to resuscitate him. He was transferred to Margate Hospital, where he died at 10pm last Saturday.

The death has been reported to the coroner and a post-mortem examination will be held.

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Battle of Britain 70th anniversary service attended by veterans of epic struggle



SPECIAL GUESTS: Crowd waves to the Lancaster and Spitfire during the flypast

Pictures: NICK AMES



PROUD DUTY: Cadets during the commemorations at Capel-le-Ferne



A salute to The Few who saved the world

By **NICK AMES**

nick.ames@kosmedia.co.uk

OUT of clear blue skies from over the White Cliffs of Dover, a Spitfire roared across Kentish skies 70 years and a day after the Battle of Britain began to rage.

Accompanied by an equally iconic symbol of wartime resistance, a Lancaster bomber, the fighter aircraft which more than any other symbolises Britain's defiance against the Luftwaffe in the summer of 1940 dipped its famous elliptical wings in salute.

Watching from the ground were 19 survivors of that epic wartime struggle, along with 5,000 spectators, as the anniversary

was commemorated on Sunday at the Battle of Britain memorial on the clifftop at Capel-le-Ferne, probably for the last time on such a scale.

One of the surviving Few, former Spitfire pilot Tony Iverson said: "As far as we were concerned, we saved the world."

The ceremony included an act of remembrance and wreath-laying, plus a parade involving veterans and serving air cadets, as well as music from the Band of the Royal Air Force.

Prince Michael of Kent took the salute, along with the RAF's most senior figure, Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Dalton.

During the summer of 1940, nearly 3,000 British and Allied airmen took on the

Luftwaffe and ended up preventing a Nazi invasion of England. Fighter pilot Graham Leggett, 89, was one of the 19 veterans in attendance – some taking part in the parade.

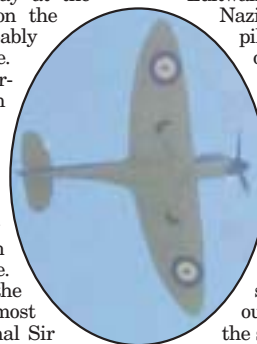
"It's a day of remembrance," he said.

The then prime minister Winston Churchill famously said of the action of the pilots and other RAF personnel: "Never was so much owed by so many to so few," and his speech was played over the PA system, stentorian tones ringing out and drawing applause from the sweltering crowd.

Officially, the conflict took place between July 10 and October 31, 1940, when Luftwaffe activity tailed off due to mounting losses and bad weather.

A total of 544 Allied airmen lost their lives during that period. It is thought only about 100 of those who took part in the battle are still alive.

Group Captain Patrick Tootal, secretary of the memorial trust, said: "The



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- A demonstration of our new website and DVDs showcasing our services
- 1pm - 1.30pm. A chance to question senior NHS staff on a 'Question Time' panel
- Copies of the Agenda and papers will be available on our website, please visit www.eckcommunityservices.nhs.uk

For questions relating to the agenda please contact:

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"We pay tribute each July to the men of RAF Fighter Command – The Few – who were at the forefront of preventing a possible invasion, as well as to the many men and women who supported them and helped ensure we live in freedom."

The Battle of Britain memorial includes a wall with the names of those who flew and a statue of a seated airman looking out to sea. He is surrounded by the insignia of Allied squadrons and other units that took part.

The memorial trust recently launched an appeal to raise £650,000 to build a learning centre at the site.

Spokesman Malcolm Triggs said: "It's particularly important for youngsters to understand the history and to see the veterans and get an idea of the bravery they showed."

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QUIRKY: Rose Wylie in her studio near Sittingbourne

Veteran artist put in frame by the queen of boho chic

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

SHE'S an "art student at heart", about to have her work featured around the world by boho chic actress Sienna Miller – and all at the grand old age of 76.

Feted as Britain's hottest new artist, Rose Wylie is a little stunned by the sudden attention of doing business with the on-off love of screen star Jude Law.

Produced in the modest studio at her home near Sittingbourne, Rose's works are now on sale at a leading London gallery, priced up to £30,000.

She told KOS Media how her designs came to be featured on T-shirts produced by actress Sienna Miller and her sister, Savannah.

Rose said: "Sienna approached my dealer in London, Union Gallery. She suggested I be this year's selected painter for them. They wanted to extend their reach with a young market. Sienna asked if they could commission me to do some work and have a show in their shop. Now I am their artist of the year.

"They chose a drawing of mine to put on a T-shirt and something on the label for the clothes. I get to have my work promoted, which is very nice.

"I met Savannah. She came down to see me and was marvellous. She was



CHEEK TO CHIC: Miller sisters Savannah, left, and Sienna

enthusiastic and terribly nice. She loved my painting. I've seen the T-shirt and they're very pleased with it, saying it's had a terrific reception. They're doing a show for me starting in September."

Rose says she is comfortable with her age, but admits to being delighted at being able to target her work at a younger audience.

Rose said: "I like young fashion, I like Savannah's clothes. They have an art school or art student feel to them. I'm an art student at heart, so there is no gap or jump for me really. I'm actually looking forward to seeing my husband [artist Roy Oxlade] wearing the T-shirt."

Rose is a prolific artist who studied at Folkestone and Dover School of Art between 1952 and 1956, leaving a gap

until she went to the Royal College of Art in London for three years in 1979.

And with the focus of the world turning to her, she said: "I don't know about this word 'fame'." But she is indeed getting famous – and fast.

The National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington DC in the United States is running an exhibition called Women to Watch, including work by Rose.

Savannah Miller, creative director at Twenty8Twelve, said: "I met Rose last spring and knew the minute I saw her work that it was unique and exceptional. Her quirky style is perfect for a fashion collaboration. We have developed two great T-shirts with her which go on sale in August."



MODEL: Wylie T-shirt design and, inset, Rose's artwork

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LETTERS

LETTER OF THE WEEK

We'll all suffer this hangover

My new MP Mark Reckless's drunken indiscretion on the night of the Budget vote is to be deplored, but not for the reason he thinks.

In itself, getting a bit squiffy after a late night at the office is no hanging offence – it's a mistake, and one he is unlikely to repeat.

But it is indicative of the casual manner in which he and his fellow Tories are approaching the programme of cuts and tax rises which are to be inflicted on those who can least afford them.

Mr Reckless will lose no sleep over those workers, in both the private and public sectors, who will be put out of work by a stalled economic recovery. Those whom the Tories really represent tend to weather such storms – and some, like carrion crows, actually thrive on them.

But for ordinary workers and taxpayers – those who can't afford off-shore accountants – the ramifications are clear. As goods become more expensive we all pay the price, either directly at the check-out, or indirectly as local businesses face even smaller profit margins and money disappears from Kent's economy. Just as it was under Conservative governments in the 1980s and 90s, the short-termism of drastic cuts and dogmatic destruction of public services will be painted all over the boarded-up shops, crumbling schools and thwarted regeneration of Medway.

That's enough to make anyone want to drown their sorrows.

Alex Paterson, Rochester

Make drunks pay for abuse

I used to work in A&E and the abuse of ambulance crews was always a problem, especially from drunks. Drunks and drug abusers are the bane of our society.

Brave, experienced ambulance staff should not have to put up with aggression or violence or bad language. They are there to help, not be abused.

Every drunk needing an ambulance should be made to pay £500. Their problem is self-inflicted, so they must foot the bill, not the taxpayers.

This money should go into NHS funding to cure more people, not pander to these disgusting individuals who have no thought for others. Hit them in the pocket, where it hurts.

C Russell, Dumpton

Police are the wrong target

If the Environment Agency discourages disposal of alcohol down drains and is not prepared to take legal action against the police for doing so, what are they going to do about all the drunks who urinate in the streets on Saturday nights?

These are the people you should be targeting, not police officers who are trying to stop illegal drinking.

OPINION: I'M READY FOR MY CHANGE

While change can be a daunting prospect, it's important that we embrace it where necessary and see the opportunity in new situations, says **JAMES LANGSTAFF**

SOME people get really excited about change: new challenges, new opportunities and new places are the things that get them fired up. Other people find change difficult. They're much happier with things being settled and familiar: they want to know where things are.

There's a lot of change around at the moment. We have a new government, which is different from previous governments because it's a coalition and we're still finding out what that may mean. We have lots of announcements being made and many of them will result in change.

This could be huge reductions in public expenditure and we don't know what that might mean for us, our families and communities. For many that is very unsettling. There are also the things we wish would change but they don't – a certain football team's performance perhaps.

Since April I've known I'm going to be facing a pretty big change, but I had to wait until a couple of weeks ago before anybody else could know. In June it was made public that I will be moving to Kent later in the year to become the next Bishop of Rochester.

That means change for me. A new role, new place, new home and change for my family with a new home and my wife having to find a new job; and change for people in the churches and more widely in Kent because they will need to get to know their new bishop.

There is a lot I am looking forward to about this change. I find it exciting to get to know new people and new places. There will be plenty of meeting people, getting out and about, discovering who is who, learning where the traffic jams are, finding out how things work in a part of the country that is new for me.

For the last six years I've been living and working in north and west Norfolk. For 18 years before that I was a parish priest in Birmingham. The

Diocese of Rochester will have similarities with both, but there will also be differences about which I will have to learn.

For me, getting to know the communities of the diocese will be very important. I have a passion to see the Church active in communities, helping to improve people's lives, making a difference, working for people's good. Over the years I've had a particular involvement in that through organisations working to provide affordable housing for people who need it. A decent home is so important for people to lead good lives. I'll be seeing what the Church is already doing in our neighbourhoods and trying to see what I might do to help and encourage that.



A bishop has a special role in supporting the work of clergy in their parishes, chaplaincies and other settings. At the moment I have about 100 clergy in my part of Norfolk. There are many more in the Diocese of Rochester. This means more change for me and for them. I imagine them wondering what this new bishop will be like, phoning their friends who may know me to see what they say. And at the same time I'm wondering how I'm going to get to know all of them and how we might work well together.

You can't live without facing change. We're changing all the time and the world around us is doing the same. Every new day is different. For some that is a frightening prospect, as things or people they rely on or take for granted are no longer there – we need our securities, the fixed points in our lives. But then there's the excitement and the buzz of the new – fresh experiences and challenges, the need to think new thoughts.

For me as a Christian, the great constant is the love of God which he shows us. In one sense that love never changes: it is always there, always available, never running out. In another sense it is always changing because it is fresh each day, opening up new possibilities for us. "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases," we read in the Bible, "his mercies never come to an end: they are new every morning". That's an important verse for me as I face the coming changes.

• **James Langstaff is the Bishop-designate of Rochester.**

These people should be fined – it's too easy just to empty the bottle and walk away. Perhaps the fines could even help pay for another police officer.

M Webb, Broadstairs

Reality check, not horseplay

Am I the only one to find it ironic and disturbing that up to £12 million is to be spent on constructing the Ebbsfleet giant white horse, whereas the owners of a horse sanctuary have been unable to raise £600,000 to save living horses?

Perhaps there are others like myself who would rather see real horses in our countryside than the proposed overblown version of a child's toy.

Although a white horse, with its bridle is a captive animal and hardly invokes the freedom and spirit of Invicta.

Valerie Martin, Herne Bay

• Last weekend you featured stories about the closure of a refuge for

horses for the sake of £600,000. As a consequence, some of the horses may have to be destroyed.

Yet also in the news is the cost of the planned Ebbsfleet white horse rising to £10 million-£12m. It is a sad reflection that people would prefer to spend so much on the sculpture of a horse while living animals may have to die for lack of funds.

Anthony John, Broadstairs

• So the Ebbsfleet horse sculpture cost is rising to £12m? Come on, Eurostar, Land Securities and London & Continental Railways, isn't it time to cut your losses? Pay Mr Wallinger off and go for the simple option of either a spectacular 200ft beer pump handle, or an iconic representation of cricket stumps.

Bill Stevens, Faversham

Education gap getting wider

Kent Green Party believes the current enthusiasm for academy schools is misplaced and will lead

to more control over education by Government. The move towards academies in Kent and Medway will widen the education gap between rich and poor.

There is no intention to properly resource schools in areas with the greatest needs under this scheme.

Under targeted policies, there would be far more assurance that lessons meet the needs of the children and society and assurance that children are not cherry-picked to make schools look good.

Education is a basic right and one that must be protected, governed properly and accountable, not privatised and made unaccountable.

The Government's claim that academies are raising standards is not proven. Covert and overt admissions and exclusion practices enable academies to skew their intakes in favour of those from higher-achieving backgrounds.

Local authorities can direct maintained schools to accept special needs children but can only ask academies. There is also increasing evidence of academies excluding more children than maintained schools. Furthermore,



Needs of the child must come first

EVERY week we seem to hear about more massive cuts – millions here, billions there – that need to be made to get this country out of the financial mire.

Many may even have become hardened to the massive figures being bandied about. But the news that single parents in Kent bringing up children on their own are missing out on £155 million of unpaid child maintenance will shock most people.

Because parents going without much-needed support from ex-partners are hit directly and immediately in the pocket.

It means that not only do single mothers or fathers have to struggle to bring up their child on a day-to-day basis, they are also doing so without the extra money which could provide such basics as school meals and clothes.

Regardless of what happened in the relationship, blame needs to be left out when concerning children. Any bitterness needs to be put to one side and the child's well-being made a priority.

If the lack of payment is because of financial problems, then honesty has to be the best policy.

At least then the situation can be sorted out and all involved helped – in particular the child. There are many two-parent families bringing in two incomes who are struggling at the moment, so for those raising children alone everything needs to be done to help.

Nothing puts County Show in the shade

AFTER weeks of glorious sunshine the inevitable has happened – the driving wind and rain is back, reminding us of a winter we thought we had seen the last of.

But this weekend, regardless of the weather, thousands will flock to Maidstone to enjoy the sights and sounds of the Kent County Show.

One of the highlights of the year, the annual event celebrates rural life in all its glory. So – with either your sunglasses or your wellies – come and enjoy the delights of one of Kent's favourite days out.

academies are not covered by general education law, which means their students and parents have fewer rights than those of schools in the maintained sector.

The sponsoring body of any academy has the power to appoint the majority of governors. Academies have high staff turnover rates, and staff in academies can be prey to discriminatory employment practices. Teachers and support staff in academies deserve the same protection as those in the maintained sector.

While Michael Gove, as Secretary of State for Education, is slashing the rebuilding of hundreds of schools around the country, he is promising extra money for any school that becomes an academy.

The divisive nature of this highlights our concerns about the tendency towards greater social segregation. We are also concerned that the Government will use the October comprehensive spending review to put academies and 'free' schools at the top of the priority list.

Stuart Jeffery, Kent Green Party

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26



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BIRTHS

ANDREWS

Mark and Anjanette Andrews are proud to announce the birth of their beautiful baby boy Tom William, born on 27th June 2010, weighing 5lbs 15.5ozs. A brother for Ruby.

BATTERSHILL

Nathan and Lindsay would like to announce the birth of their daughter Elizabeth Jane weighing 5lb 11oz on 3rd June 2010 at Darent Valley Hospital, Dartford.

BROWN

Nicola and Stuart are delighted to announce the birth of their twins Taylor and Libby. Proud big sister is Caitlin.

CHHETRI

Abhinay and Mamata Chhetri announce the birth of their daughter, Aarushi Chhetri, Aarushi arrived at 9.28am on Friday, June 11, 2010, at Maidstone Hospital, Kent, UK. She weighed 9lbs 5ozs (4.230kg). Proud grandparents are Mrs and Mr Hari Prasad Chhetri, Gangtok Sikkim and Mrs and Mr Dal Bahadur Chhantel Thapa, Butwal, Nepal.

FURNER

Claire Procter and Paul Furner celebrate the birth of their daughter Eleanor. Born on the 25th June 2010, weighing 7lb 8oz.

HOWARD

Welcome to the world our bundle of JOY - beautiful Estelle, lots of love and kisses from Mummy and Daddy x x.

LEECH

Sarah and Mark of Margate are delighted to announce the birth of their son Ryan Leech, born on 2 July 2010 at QEQM Hospital. A Brother for Sean.

LEONARD

David and Alexandra are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Freddie, born on 3rd July 2010 weighing 7lb 12oz. A little brother for Ruby and Zak.

MANCHIP

Anna and Craig of Minster are delighted to announce the birth of their son Thomas Sidney Manchip, born on 5th July 2010 at QEQM Hospital. A brother for James and Alexander.

RENIHAN BURKE

May and Kieran of Walmer are delighted to announce the birth of their son Franklin Joseph Renihan Burke, born at home on 7th June 2010.

SMYTHE

Jayne and William of Canterbury are delighted to announce the birth of their son Toby George Smythe, born at home on 27th June 2010. You are the miracle who we will love and treasure forever.

STEVENSON

Claire and Louise are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter, Amelia Paige, on 3rd July 2010 weighing 6lb.

WILLS

Tara and Andy are proud and very happy to announce the birth of Kayleigh, born on 2nd July at Darent Valley Hospital weighing 6lb 14oz.

DEATHS

BUTLER

Albert William Leonard Butler passed away peacefully in the Borough Green area on the 8th July 2010 aged 81. All enquiries to Sears Funeral Services 01732 883178.

CRAGGS

Patrick Craggs, 5th July 2010. Funeral at the Garden of England Crematorium at 4pm, 21st July. Flowers/ donations to John Weir, Rainham.

DONALDSON-CRAIG

Lucia died peacefully on the 27th June, 2010, aged 91. She was much loved and will be sadly missed. Funeral service will be held on 19th July 2010. No flowers please, but donations for Lifeboats. Sent to C/O John Weir Funeral Directors, 25 New Road, Chatham ME4 4QJ. 01634 408777.

ELDRIDGE

Estelle, beloved Mother, Sister, Grandmother and Great Nan, retired Lollipop Lady of Northumberland Heath, passed away after a short illness on 4th July 2010.

HOLL

Fred Holl of Minster, Ramsgate, passed away on 3rd July 2010, in the company of his loving wife and son, a release from a cruel illness. A special mention for Hockeredge Nursing Home and the staff at QEQM.

SAUNDERS

Mildred Saunders, late of Mead Road, Folkestone, passed away on 5th July 2010. Funeral at Hawkinge Crematorium on 20th July. Enquiries to Chittendens Funeral Directors Folkestone.

WILSHER

Margaret (Maggie) Wilsher died after a short illness on 28th June 2010 at the William Harvey Hospital, aged 60 years. Sadly missed by Alan and all family and friends.

WOOD

Derek Arthur Wood died on 8th July 2010, aged 71. Dearly loved husband of Patricia, father of Gary and Julie and grand-father of James, Daniel, Jack, and Luke. Funeral service at East Farleigh church at 2:30pm on Monday 19th July, followed by cremation service at Vinters Park at 3:30pm. Family flowers only but donations may be made to The Heart of Kent Hospice through Pickard and Beale, Brewer Street, Maidstone.

WOODWARD

Doris Mary (Doll) formerly of Crayford passed away peacefully on 6th July 2010 at Pinehurst House Sevenoaks aged 94. Much loved wife of the late Bill, Mother of Shirley and Nan of Paul and Stephen. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

IN MEMORIUM

DEACON

In memory of Marie and Bill Deacon, our beloved parents and grandparents. 10 years have gone by and never a day goes by that we don't think of you! We are so very proud to be your children and grandchildren. Love you for all eternity. So deeply missed, Billy, Gillian, Mark, Lorraine, Matthew, Terri-Leigh, Michael, Rikki, Samuel, Star, Josie & Grace.

A strange alliance

I am grateful to Cllr Trudy Dean, leader of the Lib Dem group at Kent County Council for having the courtesy to respond (Letters, last week) to my request for the views of the Conservative and Lib Dem councillors on the slashing of £23 million from infrastructure projects in west Kent.

Since then we have seen the Con-Dem coalition government cut the Building Schools for the Future programme, leaving thousands of young people in Kent and across the country to complete their education in sub-standard buildings.

That decision will also mean the construction industry and its suppliers will also suffer, running the risk of halting the economic recovery. But according to Cllr Dean, as chair of the cabinet scrutiny committee, she cannot scrutinise the impact of these two important cuts inflicted on Kent because she can only scrutinise reports to cabinet or a decision made by a cabinet member.

So we have to assume that the Conservative majority on KCC, together with its compliant Lib Dem "opposition", don't consider this scale of cuts important enough to bother reporting to cabinet.

No doubt, Cllr Dean will compliantly tell us that her Conservative chums won't let her look at major changes to the KCC's agreed budget any more. But why should they? After all, they're all in it together.

Cllr Mike Eddy, Labour, Dover District Council, Mill Hill, Deal

Facing the truth

Why is it that other countries are prepared to stand up for what their electorate want, but Britain remains too politically correct to respond to public opinion? Britain is often said to be the home of democracy, yet even in the face of clear public opinion to ban face-coverings in public, no party except UKIP is brave enough to propose such a ban.

It now appears France and Belgium are leading the way on this issue and the UK remains committed to social engineering until no-one knows what it means to be British and to whom they may be speaking.

Victor Webb, UKIP, Tunbridge Wells

Smiles and Sands

May we thank everyone who supported SANDS – the Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Society – by helping us raise £300 on our Smiley Faces tombola at the Ashford Street Festival last weekend.

This money will help fund research into why every day (on average) 17 babies die in the UK, and help support those affected.

Our thanks to the organisers of the festival for such a great event and to the scores of volunteers on the day who were so helpful.

Chris and Emma Twydel, SANDS fundraisers, Hothfield

Synthetic outrage

There have been quite a few people like Peter Read giving heart-rending stories about schools falling to pieces.

From the outcry you'd think only the public hanging of Michael Gove would satisfy the outrage. Did this all happen overnight as the new Government came in, or was it going on throughout Labour's years in office? I don't remember such a kerfuffle when they were in power. The outrage appears to be politically motivated and rather synthetic.

After failing to repair schools, it was easy for Labour to then promise any amount of money, knowing they wouldn't have to pick up the bill, after having racked up monumental debts and borrowed £1 in every four they spent. A situation even they knew was unsustainable. There had to be a day of reckoning if we were not to become a basket case like Greece.

Incidentally, for those fixated on only 'new' schools being able to provide a satisfactory education, I would remind

them that many private schools are in ancient buildings and still provide an excellent education. Old buildings are no excuse for poor teaching.

Phil Granger, West Malling

A bunch of losers

Sitting in my garden over the last few weeks I have seen various 1940s aeroplanes passing over for air displays at Margate and Biggin Hill to commemorate Dunkirk, the Battle of Britain and other wartime anniversaries. When I bought some 60p stamps recently – the ones you need for sending letters to Germany – they had World War Two images on them. A visit to HMV at Bluewater revealed DVDs of Valkyrie, about a plot to kill Hitler. Why are we so obsessed with the war?

I know it was awful – the destruction, the slaughter and the jazz music – but it's time we forgot about it and lived in the present.

The USA won the war and the other participants lost. They seized our overseas assets as a result of Lend-Lease for armaments, pulverised Germany because of the Holocaust and then imposed a Jewish state on the British protectorate of Palestine, resulting in a holocaust of Arabs which in turn has led to aggrieved Muslims waging jihad on this country.

Let's not fixate on historic surrenders by Germany or Japan, but think seriously about the constant surrenders to the EU by our Quisling leaders over immigration, rubbish disposal and the closure of post offices; and surrenders to the USA over BP, extradition and foreign policy. We should vote UKIP, put oast houses on the stamps, and celebrate victory in the Falklands.

Quentin Williamson, Dartford

Marvellous gesture

On behalf of the Meningitis Trust, I would like to thank Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity for recently awarding us a grant of £15,000.

The charity exists to make seriously ill children's lives better and the foundation believes every child has the right to a good quality of life, no matter how ill they are, and raises money to support individuals and organisations, so sick children can receive the highest quality care, advice and support. We were thrilled to receive their support.

The grant will fund art therapy sessions we provide to children affected by meningitis. The trust provides professional support services along with art therapy, including counselling, financial grants, one-to-one contacts and a 24-hour helpline (0800 028 18 28).

If anyone has experienced meningitis and would like support, visit www.meningitis-trust.org or call the helpline number above.

Sarah Priestley, Meningitis Trust

Leaving a legacy

The World Health Organisation is predicting that this year cancer will overtake heart disease as the world's biggest killer.

Yet a recent survey revealed only half of people in Britain are aware they can reduce their cancer risk through a healthy diet and physical activity. We still have a long way to go in ensuring even more people know about our life-saving message that a third of the most common cancers could be prevented by following a healthy diet, being physically active and maintaining a healthy weight.

This is why we are encouraging readers to consider leaving a legacy to WCRF, so we can help ensure your family and friends have the best knowledge possible about how they can avoid this terrible disease. Many people find the prospect of making a will daunting. To help, WCRF has developed a personal will organiser, which has easy-to-follow information on how to go about making or updating a will. We are offering a free personal will organiser to the first 100 readers who call 020 7343 4205 and quote 'media.' Visit www.wcrf-uk.org/legacies to find out more.

Chris Stevens, legacies manager, WCRF

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

Reforming the CAP

This week the European Parliament voted on the future of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). The CAP has often been described as "the lifeblood of farmers across Europe", or an "obstacle to international development", or even "a way for the French government to use money from all over Europe to pay for French farming".

George Lyon MEP, my Liberal Democrat colleague wrote the report that we passed. He proposes five key blocks to reform the CAP: food security and fair trade; sustainability; Europe-wide agriculture; biodiversity and environmental protection; and harnessing green growth potential.

The CAP is a vital tool but we must use it to encourage greener and more sustainable farming.

Direct support payments to farmers across Europe should be linked to efforts to reduce harmful emissions. A reformed and renewed CAP will treat

farmers as part of the solution to climate change, not part of the problem.

Financial support needs to encourage the development of small scale renewables, promote further carbon capture and set a goal for the majority of European farmland to be covered by agri-environmental schemes.

Above all we must put fairness at the heart of these reforms.

In south-east England we have a huge agriculture sector, much of it here in Kent. About 62 per cent of our land is used for farming and we need to make sure our farmers receive a fair deal.

Receiving payments based on how you farmed in the last century should not dictate how payments are received in the years ahead. Historic payments were unjustified, unfair and should come to an end.

In passing this report we have sent a clear message to the commission and the governments of member states on what your representatives in the European Parliament, the MEPs, expect from CAP reform.

Catherine Bearder, Lib Dem MEP for Kent

Kent & Medway



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31st July 2010

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Biological
Records Centre

BATS AND MOTHS have evolved in very close relationship, although it could be said to be rather one sided as predator and prey! If you'd like to learn more about the amazing diversity, ecology and behaviour of some of the bat and moth species we might expect to find in Kent then why not come and join us at Brogdale Farm on 31st July 2010 for a fascinating evening hosted by Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre and the Brogdale Courtyard Restaurant!

BAT AND MOTH EXPERTS from around the County will be joining us to provide **FUN AND INFORMATIVE BAT WALKS**, as well as enabling everyone to get a close up look at some of our **AMAZING MOTH SPECIES**.

There will be **CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES** in the Courtyard and the restaurant will be offering, for one night only, a delicious choice of high quality, locally sourced **BBQ FOOD FROM 5PM** onwards as well as light refreshments and its fabulous **HOME MADE CAKES**.

Brogdale Collections will also be co-ordinating self guided walks giving visitors the opportunity to take a leisurely stroll around the beautiful grounds and spend time enjoying the orchards. Charges for the orchard walks are £5.00 adults, £4.50 concessions, £2.50 children and families £12.50. Entry to all other activities is free of charge.

For more information please contact Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre on 01795 532385.

Entry to the event and activities will be **FREE** but numbers will be limited for the bat walk and will need to be booked in advance. Please book early to avoid disappointment either by ringing the number above or emailing us at info@kmbrc.org.uk



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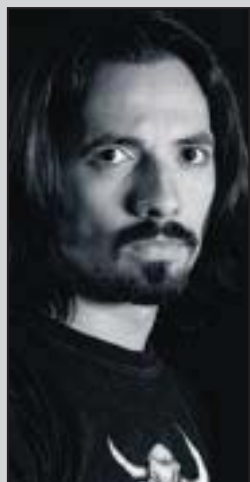
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Collage earns fine art prize

A PHOTOGRAPHY student from the University for the Creative Arts at Rochester has won first prize in an international competition.

Nikitas Almpanis, pictured left, claimed the top award in the fine art – collage category at the Paris Prix de la Photographie for his image entitled 'It could be you next!'

He said: "The theme is uniformity in the workplace, which gradually leads to the crushing of individuality and the deterioration of character."

The image – shown right – will now be exhibited in a Paris gallery and published in a full-colour book.



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Right philosophy on path to China

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

CONFUCIUS classrooms have been set up in three Kent schools to act as centres of excellence for the teaching of Chinese.

Dartford Grammar, the New Line Learning Academy in Maidstone and Beths Grammar in Bexley will now specialise in the language as part of an initiative by the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust.

The organisation set up the world's first schools-based Confucius Institute in 2006 when it received permission from the Office of Chinese Language Council International.

Chief executive Elizabeth Reid said: "The teaching of Mandarin Chinese is increasingly important for the lives and careers of young people in this country.

"During the economic problems of the last two years, China's role in the global economy has strengthened while other economies – including our own – have faltered.

"This has underlined the necessity for young people to gain an understanding of China and its language, as many will be seeking jobs in the future for which this

knowledge is essential." The Kent schools granted Confucius classroom status were among 22 celebrated at the SSAT's annual China conference, held at the Royal Society, London, this month.

The gathering also marked the launch of a new textbook for the teaching of Mandarin Chinese at Key Stage 3, which will be available to all schools from September.

Mrs Reid said an increase in the study of China across the curriculum was needed.

"More schools are recognising this and the 22 new Confucius classrooms join a strong network of schools driving the teaching of Chinese language and culture," she said.

"The Confucius Institute works with Hanban and Peking University to support schools as they grow their Chinese provision.

"Through this collaboration schools in our Chinese networks are able to develop effective teaching and learning resources and provide students with knowledge that will prepare them for success in the global economy."

THE University of Kent's head of engineering and digital arts has been awarded the 2010 Honeywell International Medal.

Professor Sarah Spurgeon picked up the accolade in recognition of her outstanding contribution to control theory and systems engineering. She said: "It is an exciting discipline and I am privileged to have the opportunity to work in areas as diverse as control of nuclear fusion.

"My area is inter-disciplinary and this is recognition of the great team of collaborators with whom I have had the privilege of working over the past 20 years."

A ONE-day life casting course will take place at the Meltdowns Studio in Ramsgate next month.

The introductory session to the art of casting will be from 10am-5pm on Saturday, August 7, at a cost of £60. The deadline for booking is Friday, July 23.

Telephone 01843 580083 or email stacy@meltdowns.co.uk for more information.



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The Board meets 4 times a year during the working day and is supported by a number of Operating Boards and Committees. The Board also holds two Away Days a year with the Management Team

Interested? Want to find out more? Have a look at our website www.avantepartnership.org.uk. For an informal conversation, please contact **Cedric Frederick, Avante Partnership's Chief Executive** on **01795 597400**

Heard enough? Please send Cedric your CV and a covering letter setting out why you'd like to join our Board to cfrederick@avantepartnership.org.uk or marked 'Private and Confidential' to **Avante Partnership, De Gelsey House, 1 Jubilee Way, Faversham, Kent ME13 8GD**



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Please apply in writing with CV to:

Barry Ryan, Burgess Hodgson, Camburgh House, 27 New Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3DN

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KCA is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors.

Community Drug Worker Substance Misusing Parents Project

£26,276 - £29,236 + essential car user allowance of up to £1,239 per annum • 37 hours per week • Based Swale

You will be part of a project providing specialist treatment to parents with drug or alcohol problems, who have been referred to Swale Children's Social Services, and whose substance use is impacting on the care of their children.

You will work closely with social workers to implement a joint package of care to families. This includes making home visits, attending case conferences and core group meetings.

With excellent assessment and intervention skills, you will help service users make significant changes to their substance use. Experience of working in partnership with other agencies is desirable. A background and qualification in substance misuse, nursing, counselling, social work or another relevant profession is essential.

If you would like to discuss this post further, please contact Sue Hamilton at shamilton@kca.org.uk or on 01843 298355 ext 217. Ref: 681.

Closing date: 26 July 2010 at 5.00pm.

Interview date: 6 August 2010.

Family Support Workers

2 posts • Fixed term until 31 March 2011

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37 hours per week • 1 post in Gravesham and 1 post in Swale

KCA Horizon drug treatment programmes offer intensive key working, group work and assistance and support in accessing opportunities in education, employment and voluntary work, to those wishing to address their substance misuse and make positive changes to their lifestyle.

You will be part of a community team whose aim is to improve the quality of treatment, in order to maximize the benefit to individuals' families and the local community. As a family support worker within the Horizon pilot project, you will be responsible for addressing the impact that substance misuse has on the family, including parenting and involving families and significant others in the care of service users.

You will need a professional qualification in a relevant discipline and a high level of experience working with families and the drug and alcohol field. Please quote reference number 682 (Gravesham post) and 683 (Swale post).

Closing date: 26 July 2010.

Interview date for both posts : 5 August 2010.

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As part of our busy finance team, you will undertake the daily administration duties and assist in the operation and maintenance of the purchase ledger, sales ledger and payroll. You will also provide back-up support for team members as required. Training will be provided.

You will need to have good keyboard skills, be numerate and fully computer literate. Previous experience of working in a finance office and knowledge of Microsoft Office and Dynamics Great Plains is desirable but not essential. You will need to be able to respond to people in a professional manner and have good communication skills.

For an informal discussion regarding the role, please contact Ann Colyer, Finance Office Manager, on 01795 590795. Ref: 684.

Closing date: 23 July 2010.

Interview date: 11 August 2010.

Application forms and job descriptions for all roles can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk. You can also email recruitment@kca.org.uk or call 01795 590795 selecting option three. Please quote the relevant reference number.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity No: 292824

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Experienced Residential Care Worker required for Margate/Ramsgate area.

- Will need to have
- NVQ level 2 or 3 in CCYP preferable but not essential
 - Good communication skills
 - Good report writing ability
 - Flexibility
 - Able to do sleep-ins and week-end work
 - Driver preferred but not essential.

For more information please contact Jay on Tel: 02084224545.
Email: blueskychildrenservices@gmail.com

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BeneCare Children's Services

RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT WORKERS FOR THE WHISTABLE AREA
SALARY RANGE £11,620 - £18,500 PA PLUS INCREMENTS
WE REQUIRE RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT WORKERS TO WORK IN OUR NEW HOMES
QUALIFICATIONS NVQ 3 OR EQUIVALENT PREFERRED.
HOWEVER TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED FOR APPLICANTS WITH EVIDENT POTENTIAL AND/OR RELEVANT EXPERIENCE.
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For an application form CONTACT OUR OFFICE MANAGER
JANN ASLETT ON 01732 740088
EMAIL: headoffice@benecareltd.co.uk
www.benecareltd.co.uk

Is this the job for you?

ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require the following staff to complement our team at our home in

BOBBING

www.achuk.com

SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS

Salary from £15,250

SUPPORT WORKERS

Salary £13,250

For an application pack please visit our website at
www.achuk.com
Alternatively e-mail louise.burrows@achuk.com
or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8871.



Exhibition Stand Design, Manufacture, & Management based in Gravesend require

EXHIBITION LABOURER/DRIVER

(HGV Class 2 and forklift licences essential)
Telephone (01474) 536360 for application form or e-mail CV to: mail@esm-uk.com

Direct Sales Consultant

confirmed leads provided.
Must have own car. Top rates paid. Experience not necessary as full training is provided. Phone Rachel on **01634 813940**.

Faversham Residential Home require a

Weekend Domestic

9-2pm
For further details please call **01795 532629**

Office Junior Required

Duties to include general office work.
I.T skills are essential. Would suit someone who is enthusiastic, friendly and confident, with a willingness to work hard. Must be reliable and punctual. Further training will be given to the right candidate.

Please apply in writing to Mr Ron Twyman, Piper Double Glazing Limited, 140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent, CT12 6PP
or e-mail ron@piperwindows.co.uk



it will never be just another job

mcch is a charitable organisation committed to designing and delivering services, based on the unique qualities of each individual, to people with learning disabilities, autism or mental health needs.

There are exciting opportunities to be a part of the mcch team providing employment and vocational services to individuals to achieve their employment and vocational aspirations by providing information, advice and guidance and support to access and retain paid employment. All successful applicants will be able to demonstrate a commitment to supporting individuals in their employment pathway.

Early Intervention in Psychosis Team Employment Advisor Ref: 738/E
£22,367-£23,921 South West Kent

Working directly with the EIP teams in partnership with other statutory and VCS organisations to develop early intervention supported employment and vocational initiatives for individuals with mental health issues accessing services. To support individuals in order to facilitate the recovery process through paid employment, work related, education and training opportunities.

How to apply...

For an application form and job description email jobs@mcch.co.uk or apply on line at www.mcch.co.uk alternatively call **0845 600 1562**. Please quote ref. We also have large type/Braille versions available on request. All appointments are subject to a Criminal Records Disclosure.



learning disability mental health autism

Alzheimer's & Dementia

SUPPORT SERVICES

Registered Charity Number 1024385

Alzheimer's & Dementia Support Services (ADSS) is the lead provider of practical and emotional support to people with dementia and their carers in the Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley area. ADSS is currently expanding its services and requires the following person to join a very dedicated team.

REGISTERED MANAGER - SUPPORT AT HOME SERVICE

20 hours per week £12,000 p.a.

Plus car allowance and mileage

NVQ4 in Management required or NVQ3 willing to work to NVQ4 or an equivalent professional qualification

For an application pack, please telephone:
01474 533990 or email adminadss@btconnect.com
The closing date for completed applications is
10th August 2010

To advertise in this section

01303 817040

Trailblazer Travel

Ashford, Bank Street
Herne Bay, High Street
Manston, Kent International Airport
Online

Trailblazer Travel is a brand new, independent travel agency in Kent opening three branches and a new, fully bookable website this year with ambitious plans to expand across Kent. We're part of the Hays Travel Group and with over a million holidays from nearly 500 tour operators, we'll always have the right holiday for you!

We're looking for people with a real passion for sales to join us at the start of an exciting journey in the travel industry and in return, we'll offer you an excellent career as well as a rewarding lifestyle!

Retail Branch Managers: You'll manage the team, assisting with all areas of bookings, motivate and identify areas to develop individual members of the team and drive through new business. You will have recent and relevant Retail Travel management experience, proven business development skills, a proactive and hands-on, can do attitude with energy, enthusiasm and focus.

Salary Package - up to £30,000+ 20% bonus + commission.

Tailor made Specialists: You'll be experienced and extremely confident in selling a full range of worldwide holidays, mainly long haul, world wide flights and holidays, cruises and extraordinary destinations for our customers. You'll have extensive experience of selling many specialist destinations such as Australia and the Far East, Caribbean, South America and other niche markets. You'll be well travelled, knowledgeable about various destinations and have an outstanding and proven skill set in identifying and booking customer requirements whilst providing outstanding customer service.

Salary Package - Between £15 - £30,000 + 20% bonus + commission

Cruise Specialists: You'll maximise sales for us by exceeding our customers' expectations. The role involves making calls to attract and close business, using your extensive knowledge of the cruise industry to provide excellent cruise opportunities. You'll also maintain accurate information on the company's products, commercial campaigns and ancillary services. You'll have the ability and experience to reach and exceed targets in a highly results driven environment, be focused, friendly and have a real passion for what you do.

Salary Package - Between £15 - £25,000 + 20% bonus + commission

Contact Centre Sales Consultants (Ashford only): With a minimum of two years ABTA travel experience, you will be able to prove an impressive record of sales achievement. You need to have the confidence and commitment necessary to be your own boss and run your own business based from our offices in Bank Street, Ashford. This means having what it takes to find, and then keep, your own customers as well as converting calls directed to you via our telephone switch. In return, you will reap the rewards of unlimited earning potential, flexible hours, the satisfaction of running your own business, dedicated head office support and free training.

Salary Package - Basic salary + extensive commission+ benefits

All applicants will be working as part of a team environment making reservations via our in-house system. Applicants wishing to apply for these exciting Travel Sales roles will ideally have experience within a travel sales role either in retail or tour operators with experience of working in a target driven environment. Retail or leisure travel consultants with experience of booking holidays using a booking system and the web combined with excellent customer service experience will also be considered. Send your CV with current salary details to info.ashford@trailblazertravel.co.uk by July 31st 2010 at the latest.

MOTORSPORT

We are looking for a bright, motivated and hardworking individual to work within our operations team delivering events and a venue for them to our demanding standards whilst maintaining strict adherence to budgets.

Venue Maintenance Team Leader, Brands Hatch

First class presentation of our venue is very important to us. The role requires a well organised individual capable coordinating a wide variety of tasks including the preparation of the race circuit to the stipulated standards, grounds and buildings maintenance across the site and circuit improvement, repair and construction projects.

Leading and working with a team of around 10 people you will need to be an excellent people-manager, communicator and motivator. Experience in the civil engineering or construction industry would be useful and familiarity with CDM and Health & Safety regulations is essential. Applicants should have a good knowledge of plant and machinery, be accustomed to outdoor work and some experience in agricultural or horticultural areas would be advantageous.

Critical qualities are strong organisational skills, the ability to cope under pressure and meet tight deadlines. A winning mentality and meticulous attention to detail are essential and as part of the events industry, being prepared to work at weekends and on bank holidays during the season is a must.

Applicants should apply in writing, including a CV and salary expectations, to:

Katie Dickens, Human Resources,
MotorSport Vision Limited, Brands Hatch Circuit,
Fawkham, Longfield, Kent, DA3 8NG, or
E-mail: katie.dickens@motorsportvision.co.uk



Carpenters

required for Canterbury & North Kent area
Immediate start, long term work & excellent rates. Must hold current CSCS card.

Enquiries: Ben Cook
07736 613549

Assistant Manager Required For Residential Care Home

In Folkestone

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person.
Must have minimum NVQ Level 3 qualification, and experience in caring for the elderly is essential.

Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager) on 01303 254019

Subject to satisfactory CRB Check

RECEPTIONIST REQUIRED

Initially for 6 months only but with a view to possible permanent position after initial period. 20 Hrs per week 3 mornings and 2 evenings - must be flexible

Apply in writing with CV to Mrs Jill Blackman, Practice Manager, Sun Lane Surgery, 5 Sun Lane, Hythe, Kent, CT21 5JX or jill.blackman2@nhs.net
Closing date Friday 30th July

Chef de Partie required for busy country pub restaurant with high standards

Would suit someone looking to advance their career.
Good conditions, holiday pay.
Right applicant must have necessary qualifications.

Phone Mark on 01227 860338

Flexible Working Opportunity

Would you like to join a dynamic team selling leading edge business software to the hair and beauty salon market and create your own working environment with excellent earning potential?
Basic PC and great communication skills are essential.

If interested email: nigel.gethins@syntos.co.uk or call **07831 683647** with contact details

Why not check out our website at www.syntos.co.uk



Public Sector

You can also find the latest jobs online: www.jobsforkent.co.uk

KOSMEDIA

Telephone: 01303 817040

Fax: 01303 817004

Email: appointments@kosmedia.co.ukOnline: www.jobsforkent.co.uk


The Spencer Wing is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEOM Hospital site.

The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

Senior Staff Nurse

Full-time position

Qualifications: Registered Nurse 1st Level
Minimum 2 years post registration/equivalent experience
Evidence of continual professional development
ENB 998 Teaching and Assessing Course or equivalent

To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact
Vicky Smith or Mary Guarnieri – 01843 234555 Ext: 62207

For job description and application form please contact:
Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd
The Spencer Wing, QEOM Hospital, Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG
Telephone: 01843 234556 Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer
This position is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check



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Even if you can only spare one day a week we would love to hear from you.

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0800 731 6871

or email enquiry.ers@capita.co.uk

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Academy Receptionist

£13,097 - £14,311 • 8.30am - 4.30pm (Mon - Thurs) & 8.30am - 4.00pm (Fri) all year round

Joining our administration team, you will be keen, motivated and must feel comfortable working with young people. The ability to work well under pressure is essential as are excellent organisational, interpersonal and communication skills.

For further details and an application form, please visit www.spiresacademy.com
Alternatively, contact us on 01227 710392 or email: office@spiresacademy.com

Closing date: Monday 26th July 2010 at noon.

Interview date: Friday 30th July 2010.

Spires Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following areas:

Lecturer in Public Services

Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 per annum (dependent on qualifications and experience) Medway

We are looking for an excellent individual to participate in the delivery of Public Services programmes throughout the College. The successful candidate will teach on a range of BTEC programmes of level one to three and have a background in Public Services. This post will also involve working with students in a variety of offsite activities related to the uniformed public services.

Lecturer in Child Care and Health Care

Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 per annum (dependent on qualifications and experience) Medway

We are looking for a knowledgeable and experienced candidate to deliver CACHE Child Care and Health and Social Care programmes at various levels. The successful candidate will have the ability to motivate students and be flexible and adaptable in their teaching methods. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

CLOSING DATE: Friday 30 July 2010

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer




The Spencer Wing is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEOM Hospital site.

The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

Healthcare Assistant

Full-time position

Qualifications: Evidence of healthcare experience
GCSE English / or equivalent

To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact
Vicky Smith or Mary Guarnieri – 01843 234555 Ext: 62207

For job description and application form please contact:
Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd
The Spencer Wing, QEOM Hospital
Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG
Telephone: 01843 234556 Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer
This position is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check




Rainham School for Girls

(A Specialist Technology College & Training School)
Derwent Way, Rainham, GILLINGHAM Kent ME8 0BX
(NOR 1570)

Head Teacher: Mrs J Dunn

Science Teacher required for September 2010
Applications welcome from experienced teachers and NQTs

Rainham School for Girls is a popular and successful non-selective 11-19 school offering excellent opportunities for enthusiastic and ambitious applicants to contribute to its continuing development. The school has Investors in People status.

Any offer of employment for this post will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure.

This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Application forms and further details are available from Mrs D Francis, HR Manager at the School.

Tel. 01634 362746, Fax: 01634 388334. email: dfrancis@rsg.org.uk

Closing date: Monday, 19th July 2010

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JobsforKent.co.uk



FOLKESTONE PRIMARY ACADEMY**Teaching Assistant Specialist in ASD**

We are looking to recruit a specialist TA for September 2010, initially in Foundation Stage. For further details please contact the school on 01303 255012.

The successful applicant will be required to undertake an Enhanced Disclosure via the Criminal Records Bureau

JobsforKent.co.uk

The smart way to find a job in the County

The Sittingbourne Community College**Daring to be different!**

The specialist College for Arts, Sport and Engineering.
One of the most improved schools in Kent. Roll increased from 940 to 1,400 in 5 years (including 200 in Post 16 Centre)

The National Challenge

Join an English Department which will soon be identified as one of the most successful in the county. Results from 25% to 60% in 4 years. 50% of the department have received senior promotion in the last year.

**REQUIRED FOR IMMEDIATE START
TEACHER OF ENGLISH**

This post is an amazing professional development opportunity for an experienced or newly qualified English Teacher. The postholder will teacher KS3 in the first instance. Laptop provided and enhanced salary for the right candidate.

**Committed to Child Protection and Safety.
Post subject to Enhanced CRB Disclosure.**

For further details please contact Mrs Debbie Myers, Personnel Officer, on 01795 472449 or email debbie.myers@sittingbourne.kent.sch.uk

To apply, please send your letter of application and CV to

Alan Barham, Headteacher, or email alan.barham@sittingbourne.kent.sch.uk

CLOSING DATE: 6-8-10

The Sittingbourne Community College
Swanstone Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 4NL
Tel: 01795-472449 Fax: 01795-470332
Email: office@sittingbourne.kent.sch.uk
Web: www.sittingbourne.kent.sch.uk

**Swale Gateway Project Officer (12 month contract)**

Salary - £27,695 to £34,194 • 37 hours per week

This post is offered on a temporary contract for up to twelve months.

The Sheerness Gateway is an exciting new partnership venture being delivered by Swale Borough Council and Kent County Council together with other public and community sector partners. It will see the delivery of a single access point for a variety of public services in the heart of Sheerness town centre.

We are looking for a Project Officer with experience, drive, initiative and outstanding communications skills to join us and lead the project. You will have a talent for working with a wide range of partners in the private, public and community sectors, you will have a key role in making the Sheerness Gateway a reality and you will have a proven track record in delivering major, multi-partner projects.

You will coordinate the development of the facility and services, working with partners and local community groups to develop the Sheerness Gateway proposals and the implementation of the facility. You should have experience of working with community and representative organisations, businesses and statutory bodies, and should possess excellent project management skills, together with a relevant Degree or equivalent qualification.

For an informal discussion, please contact Dave Thomas, Head of Commissioning and Customer Contact, on 01795 417263 (davethomas@swale.gov.uk)

In addition to salary, we can offer you a generous annual leave allowance, paid bank holidays, Local Government final salary pension scheme and flexi time working for most posts.

For further information and an application form contact Human Resources, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3HT. Telephone Sittingbourne (01795) 417414 (24 hour voice mail) quoting reference 208ED4.

E-Mail: hr@swale.gov.uk Website: <http://jobs.swale.gov.uk>

Closing date: 2 August 2010
Interviews: w/c 9 August 2010

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**JobsforKent.co.uk****Accountancy****ASSISTANT BOOK-KEEPER****Canterbury**

Salary: TBA

To apply/more information:
Burgess Hodgson Chartered Accountants
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

TRAINEE CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**Canterbury**

Salary: TBA

To apply/more information:
Burgess Hodgson Chartered Accountants
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Finance Office Assistant**Faversham**

Salary: £15,039 - £16,830 pro rata

Closing Date: 23 July 2010
To apply/more information:
KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 684
Tel: 01795 590795
Email recruitment@kca.org.uk

Finance and HR Officer**Chatham**

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: Noon, Wednesday 20th July 2010
To apply/more information:
Bishop of Rochester Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email papricipal@boracademy.org

Administration, Secretarial, PA**Administrator and PA to Doctor****Canterbury**

Salary: TBC

Closing Date: 30/07/10
To apply/more information:
Practice Manager
Wellness Practice
Quoting Job Ref: ISC1
Tel: 01227 789977
Email admin@idealspinecentre.co.uk

Receptionist / Customer Service**Canterbury**

Salary: negotiable

Closing Date: 30/07/10
To apply/more information:
Practice Manager
Wellness Practice
Quoting Job Ref: cust 001
Tel: 01227 789977
Email admin@idealspinecentre.co.uk

Residential Conveyancing Secretary**Gravesend**

Salary: TBA

To apply/more information:
Martin Tollhurst Partnership Solicitors
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 546018
Email ccraigie@martintollhurst.co.uk

RECEPTIONIST**Hythe**

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: Friday 30th July
To apply/more information:
Sun Lane Surgery

Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email jill.blackman2@nhs.net

Catering, Hospitality**Butcher****Dartford**

Salary: TBA

formation:
Richardson & Sons
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01322 223111
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Child Care**Care Worker****Ramsgate**

Salary: TBA

To apply/more information:
Bluesky Childrens Services Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 4224545
Email blueskychildrenservices@gmail.com

Domestic**CLEANER****Hythe**

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: Friday 30th July
To apply/more information:
Sun Lane Surgery
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email jill.blackman2@nhs.net

Domestic Trades**Carpenters - Canterbury****Canterbury**

Salary: TBA

To apply/more information:
M & S Contractors E A Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07736 613549
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Carpenters - Dartford/Gravesend**Dartford**

Salary: TBA

To apply/more information:
M & S Contractors E A Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07736 613549
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Education, Teacher, School**DINING ROOM ASSISTANT****Tunbridge Wells**

Salary: TBA

To apply/more information:
Rose Hill School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 519349
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Science Teacher**Rainham**

Salary: TBA

To apply/more information:
Rainham School for Girls
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 362746
Email dfrancis@rsg.org.uk

Chaplain**Chatham**

Salary: TBA

To apply/more information:
Bishop of Rochester Academy

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 07530834463

Email papricipal@boracademy.org

Teaching Assistant**Folkestone**

Salary: TBA

To apply/more information:
Folkestone Primary Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 255012
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms**ICT Manager****Chatham**

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: Noon, Wednesday 20th July 2010

To apply/more information:
Bishop of Rochester Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email papricipal@boracademy.org

Management, Senior Positions**Project Manager****Deal**

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: 30th July 2010
To apply/more information:
North Deal Community Company
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 381110
Email chair@northdealcommunity.co.uk

Motor Trade, Driver**Fully Qualified MOT Tester****Herne Bay**

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: 21st July 2010
To apply/more information:
County Garage (Sales) Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email carole@countygarageford.co.uk

10 x LGV 1 Drivers**Maidstone**

Salary: £550 p/wk

To apply/more information:
Mainstream Staff Supplies
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 418100
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

EXHIBITION LABOURER/DRIVER**Gravesend**

Salary: TBA

To apply/more information:
Exhibitions Stands Manufacturers Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 536360
Email mail@esm-uk.com

Not for profit, Charities**CHARITY TRUSTEES****Faversham**

Salary: Voluntary Position

To apply/more information:
Avante Partnership
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 597400
Email cfederick@avantepartnership.org.uk

Executive Committee Member**Thanet**

Salary: Voluntary

Closing Date: 17/09/10

To apply/more information:
Lynda Salisbury

East Kent Mencap

Quoting Job Ref: EXC0001

Tel: 01843-224482

Email Lynda.Salisbury@eastkentmencap.co.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work**Massage Therapist****Canterbury**

Salary: 9-18 k per annum + bonuses

Closing Date: 30/07/10

To apply/more information:
Practice Manager

Wellness Practice

Quoting Job Ref: masthe 001

Tel: 01227 789977

Email admin@idealspinecentre.co.uk

Marketing, Sales and Communication**Canterbury**

Salary: 12,500-26,500 depending on skills

Closing Date: 30/07/10

To apply/more information:
Practice Manager

Wellness Practice

Quoting Job Ref: 2010-02

Tel: 01227 789977

Email admin@idealspinecentre.co.uk

Assistant Manager**Folkestone**

Salary: TBA

To apply/more information:
Cumbria House Residential Home

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01303 254019

Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Criminal Justice Worker**Ashford**

Salary: £21,519 - £27,849

Closing Date: 19 July 2010

To apply/more information:
KCA (UK)

Quoting Job Ref: 679

Tel: 01795 590795

Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Night Staff**Sevenoaks**

Salary: TBA

To apply/more information:
Hollywell Park Ltd

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01732 822215

Email debbyhollywell@aol.com

Person Centered Planning Support Workers x 2**Dartford**

Salary: £10.39 per hour

Closing Date: Wednesday 21st July 2010

To apply/more information:
North West Kent Council for Voluntary Services

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01474 354479

Email jaki@nwkcvcs.org

COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKERS**Tunbridge Wells**

Salary: £8.25 to £10.00 per hour

To apply/more information:

Terrablu Ltd

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01892 529424

Email emma.foard@terrablu.co.uk

Carers**Tunbridge Wells**

Salary: £6.32-£7.99 per hour

To apply/more information:
SC Support & Care Services

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01732 875888

Email info@supportandcareservices.co.uk

RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT WORKERS**Thanet**

Salary: £11,620

Highways - District of Ashford

A28 CANTERBURY ROAD JUNCTION WITH SIMONE WEIL AVENUE, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF U - TURNS) (TRAFFIC REGULATION) ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council proposed to make an Order under sections 1(1) and (2), 2(1) to (3) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The Order will prohibit any vehicle making a U-Turn travelling south eastwards on Simone Weil Avenue and then north westwards on Simone Weil Avenue, Ashford.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, between 9.00am and 5pm and at Sessions House, Maidstone.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to Transport & Development, Kent Highway Services, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to t.d.ashford.swale@kent.gov.uk by Monday 9 August 2010.

BROOKFIELD ROAD & LEACON ROAD, ASHFORD (20 MPH SPEED LIMIT) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of junction modifications and improvements, the Kent County Council intends to make an order restricting traffic on Brookfield Road and Leacon Road, Ashford to impose a temporary mandatory speed limit of 20 mph, when the relevant signs are displayed on site.

This takes effect on or after 2 August 2010 for up to 5 months or until the works have been completed.

The sections of road affected are as follows:

- B2229 Brookfield Road:** from the roundabout junction with the A28 Chart Road south-eastwards to the existing 30mph / 40 mph signs
- Leacon Road:** from the junction with Brookfield Road extending north-eastwards for a distance of 65 metres past the 30 mph / 40 mph signs, and extending into Beaver Lane for a distance of approximately 17 metres.

HUNTER ROAD, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) ALBEMARLE ROAD, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs, the Kent County Council intends to make an order prohibiting traffic on Hunter Road, Ashford on or after 27 July 2010 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed for its entire length. There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions with A292 Hythe Road and Osborne Road.

The alternative route is via A292 Hythe Road, Albemarle Road and Osborne Road.

Because of the use of Albemarle Road as a diversion route, waiting will be prohibited on the west side of Albemarle Road between the junctions with Osborne Road and Glover Road, and Glover Road and Hythe Road.

Highways - District of Canterbury

BOSSINGTON ROAD, ADISHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of a bridge inspection on behalf of Network Rail, the Kent County Council has made an order prohibiting traffic on Bossington Road, Adisham on or after 19 July 2010 for up to 1 day.

The road will be closed at at the railway bridge.

The signposted alternative route is via Love Lane, B2046 Adisham Road and Station Road

ORCHARD STREET, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of BT works to rebuild a manhole, the Kent County Council intends to make an order prohibiting traffic on Orchard Street, Canterbury on or after 2 August 2010 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with St Dunstan's Street and Church Street.

The alternative route is via St Dunstan's Street, London Road, St Dunstan's Terrace and Orchard Street.

VARIOUS ROADS, HERNE BAY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of gas mains replacement, the Kent County Council intends to make an order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads, Herne Bay on or after 2 August 2010 for up to 10 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The roads will each be closed at at their junctions with Sea Street, as shown on the Schedule below.

Road name:	Sandown Drive
Dates:	From 2 August 2010 for up to 2 weeks
Alternative route:	Via Sea Street, Albany Drive and The Circus

Road name:	Bognor Drive
Dates:	From 16 August 2010 for up to 2 weeks
Alternative route:	Via Sea Street and Fleetwood Avenue

Road name:	St Anne's Drive
Dates:	From 30 August 2010 for up to 2 weeks
Alternative route:	Via Sea Street and Fleetwood Avenue

Road name:	Cobblers Bridge Road
Dates:	From 13 September 2010 for up to 4 weeks

Alternative route: Via Fleetwood Avenue and Cross Street

Road name:	Central Avenue - south bound only
Extent:	From the junction with Carlton Hill (N.B. it will become one-way from The Sea Street roundabout to Carlton Hill)

Dates:	From 13 September 2010 for up to 4 weeks
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Alternative route: Via Grand Drive, Cliff Drive and Carlton Hill

HIGHWAYS - District Of Dover

MILL LANE, WORTH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of BT cabling and jointing works, the Kent County Council has made an order prohibiting traffic on Mill Lane, Worth from 19 July 2010 for 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between 'Toe Tippers' and Mill Cottages. There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions with Deal Road and Updown Road.

The signposted alternative route is via Deal Road, Felderland Lane, A256 Eastry By-pass, Hay Hill and Hay Lane.

MOAT SOLE & WOODNESBOROUGH ROAD, SANDWICH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of gas mains replacement, the Kent County Council has made an order prohibiting traffic on Moat Sole & Woodnesborough Road, Sandwich from 19 July 2010 for a total period of up to 16 weeks or until the works have been completed.

From 6 September 2010 for approximately 8 weeks, there will be a pause in these works to allow other works nearby to go ahead. The works are then planned to resume on 1 November 2010, with an additional break over the Christmas period.

The roads will be closed in rolling sections starting outside 18 & 20 Moat Sole working along Woodnesborough Road to the junction with Sandwood Road.

The alternative routes will be westbound via Cattle Market, Harnet Street, Strand Street, High Street, New Street and St Bart's Road; eastbound via Woodnesborough Road, St Bart's Road, New Street and Cattle Market

EYTHORNE ROAD, SHEPHERDSWELL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of the installation of a new electrical supply, the Kent County Council intends to make an order prohibiting traffic on Eythorne Road, Shepherdswell on or after 5 August 2010 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside house number 40. There will be no access for though traffic between The Glen and Penfold Gardens.

The alternative route is via Church Hill, Mill Lane and Great Haynes.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Gravesham

STATION APPROACH, MEOPAHM (TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF PARKING BAYS) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order suspending the parking bay order on Station Approach, Meopham between Kings Estate Agents and The Railway Tavern.

The Order will become effective on 2nd August 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 5 days. This suspension will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate Murphys Ltd carrying out works on behalf of EDF Energy.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

COX STREET & YELSTED ROAD, STOCKBURY (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Cox Street outside the Water Works on or after Monday 19th July 2010 for a period of up to 2 days and Yelsted Road from Hill Green Road to Yaughar Lane on or after Monday 9th August 2010 for 2 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for Cox Street is via Yelsted Lane, Yelsted Road, Yaughar Lane, Magpie Lane and for Yelsted Road via Hill Green Road, Cradles Road.

South East Water Ltd apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to lay a water main. Should you require any further information regarding these works, the contact is Nicola Stone on 01634 873290.

CHART HILL ROAD, BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Chart Hill Road at the Hertsfield Bridge on or after Saturday 24th July 2010 for 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Maidstone Road, A229 Staplehurst Road, A229 Linton Hill, B2163 Heath Road, B2163 Plough Wents Road, Chart Corner, Warmlake Road, Chart Hill Road and vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to carry out a survey on the bridge. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Rebecca Harry of Jacobs on 01622 666000

A229 CHATHAM ROAD (NORTHBOUND), BOXLEY (AT JUNCTION 6 OF THE M20 MOTORWAY) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because essential bridge repair works are proposed to be executed on or near the road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on both the A229 Chatham Road Northbound Main Carriageway, Boxley between the Running Horse Roundabout off slip to the Cobtree Roundabout on slip and on the A229 Chatham Road Northbound Distributor Road, Boxley between the Running Horse Roundabout to the Cobtree Roundabout. These closures will be put into operation as required between the hours of 2100hrs to 0600hrs weekday/ Sunday evenings and between 2100hrs to 0900hrs Saturday evenings into Sunday morning. The closures will not be in operation at the same time.

This order will come into effect from Monday 2nd August 2010 for a period of up to 10 weeks or until the works are completed.

The alternative route for closure of the A229 Chatham Road Northbound Main Carriageway is via the Running Horse Roundabout off slip, Running Horse Roundabout, A229 Chatham Road Northbound Distributor Road and Cobtree Roundabout.

The alternative route for the closure of the A229 Chatham Road Northbound Distributor Road is via the Running Horse Roundabout, A229 Royal Engineers Road Southbound, Royal Engineers Roundabout, A229 Royal Engineers Road Northbound and A229 Chatham Road Northbound. Traffic wishing to gain access to the M20 Coast bound will then be directed via the A229 northbound to the Lord Lees Roundabout at the top of Bluebell Hill and then via the A229 southbound to join the M20 from the Cobtree Roundabout.

Balfour Beatty Mott MacDonald apologise for any inconvenience caused by these bridge repairs. For further information or comment please call Balfour Beatty Mott MacDonald (Hazel Greenin) on 02034 332000.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

BRITTAINS LANE, SEVENOAKS (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Brittain's Lane, Sevenoaks between its junctions with Marlborough Crescent and A224 London Road.

The Order will become effective on 2nd August 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 1 week. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the restriction above will be via: A224 London Road, Braeside Avenue and Brittain's Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate carriageway patching on the A224 London Road, Sevenoaks.

HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

ALBERT ROAD, HYTHE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of duct installation works on behalf of BT, the Kent County Council has made an order prohibiting traffic on Albert Road, Hythe from 19 July 2010 for 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at between the junctions with St Leonard's Road and Windmill Street.

The signposted alternative route is via St Leonard's Road and Windmill Street.

VARIOUS ROADS, FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of Carriageway repairs the Kent County Council has made an order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads, Folkestone, as shown in the Schedule below, from 21 July 2010 for 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

Road name:	Connaught Road
Extent:	Around the junction with Guildhall Street

Dates:	21 July 2010 for one morning
Alternative route:	Coolinge Road and Guildhall Street - There will be local access for residents up to the point of closure

Road name:	Coolinge Road
Extent:	Around the junction with Guildhall Street

Dates:	21 July 2010 for 1 afternoon
Alternative route	Cheriton Road, Connaught Road and Guildhall Street - There will be local access for residents of up to the point of closure

Road name:	Brockman Road
Extent:	For its entire length
Dates:	22 July 2010 for 2 days; the junction with Cheriton Road will be closed from 9.00 pm on 21 July 2010
Alternative route:	Cheriton Road and Coolinge Road

Road name:	Watkin Road
Extent:	Between the junctions with Pavilion Road and Russell Road

Dates:	1 August 2010 for 1 day
Alternative route:	Via Pavilion Road and Russell Road

Road name:	Archer Road
Extent:	For its entire length
Dates:	2 August for 1 day
Alternative route	Canterbury Road, Linden Crescent and Dawson Road

VARIOUS ROADS, THE DISTRICT OF SHEPWAY (PROHIBITION OF STOPPING OUTSIDE OF SCHOOLS) (CONSOLIDATION) ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council propose to make the above named Order under Sections 1, 2 and 124 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

This Order is necessary for safety reasons, and will make stopping on the "School Keep Clear" zig-zag markings on the following lengths or road from Mondays to Fridays from 8.00am to 5.00pm during school term times an infringement which may be dealt with by the issue of a penalty charge notice.

The locations are-

Station Road, New Romney

On the northern side

- (a) from a point 7 metres west of the centre line of The Churchlands at the junction with Station Road for a distance of 44 metres in an easterly direction;
- (b) from a point 36 metres east of the centre line of The Churchlands at the junction with Station Road for a distance of 38 metres in a westerly direction.

The Order will also consolidate for administrative purposes only the existing School Keep Clear markings on the following roads in Folkestone where nothing will be change on street:

Biggins Wood Road, Brockman Road, Chart Road, Foreland Avenue, Sidney Street,

The Durlocks, Walton Road and Warren Road.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which together with the relevant plans any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order, may be examined on Mondays to Fridays in the offices of Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, between 9.00am and 5.00pm.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order, you should send the grounds for your objection in writing to Highway Services, Transport and Development, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to td.dover.shepway@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 9 August 2010

PELICAN CROSSING – STATION ROAD, NEW ROMNEY ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT, 1984 (AS AMENDED)

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council, as local traffic authority, and after consultation with the chief officer of police, propose to establish a crossing (Pelican) for pedestrians under Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all their enabling powers, as follows:

Station Road, New Romney:

85 metres west of the centre line of The Churchlands at the junction with Station Road, New Romney.

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

LOMBARD STREET, MARGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of the installation of a new gas supply, the Kent County Council has made an order prohibiting traffic on Lombard Street, Margate from 19 July 2010 for up to 5 days.

The road will be closed between the junctions with New Cross Street and Hawley Street.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of New Cross Street will be reversed, so that traffic travels from Lombard Street to New Street, as and when the appropriate signage is displayed.

The signposted alternative route is via New Cross Street and New Street.

For further information, please contact
Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800
(local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

A20 LONDON ROAD WHITE HILL ROUNDABOUT, BULL LANE AND A227 BOROUGH GREEN ROAD, WROTHAM (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on A20 London Road White Hill Roundabout, Bull Lane between The High Street and the A20 and A227 Borough Green Road between the A20 and Borough Green Road on or after Tuesday 20th July 2010 for a period of up to 5 nights between 22:00hrs and 05:00hrs or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for A227 Borough Green Road is via A227 Borough Green Road, A227 Wrotham Road, A227 Western Road, A25 Borough Green Road, A25 Ightham By-Pass, A25 Sevenoaks Road, A25 Maidstone Road, A25 High Street, A25 Seal Road, A225 Otford Road, A225 Sevenoaks Road, A225 Shoreham Road, A225 Eynsford Road, A20 Gorse Hill, A20 London Road, for Bull Lane via Borough Green Road and then as above, for A20 London Road eastbound as above vice versa and for A20 westbound via A25 Maidstone Road, A25 Sevenoaks Road and then join above diversion on A25 Borough Green Road.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for essential carriageway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Robert Seggie on 08458 247 800.

NEW WHARF ROAD, TONBRIDGE (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) (SUSPENSION OF ONE WAY ORDER) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on New Wharf Road from the junction of The High Street to the loading bay for Somerfield on or after 08:00hrs Saturday 24th July 2010 to 07:00hrs Monday 26th July 2010 or until such works are completed.

The one way orders on New Wharf Road, River Walk and Bradford Street are temporarily suspended during the time of the works to allow for access to The High Street via Bradford Street.

EDF Energy, Southern Gas Networks, South East Water, Virgin Media and BT apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to provide new connections. Should you require any further information regarding these works, the contacts are: EDF – Ed Spalding on 01342 413633, SGN – Kim Gibbons on 01279 792233, BT – Simon Parsons on 01732 366650, SEW – Sarah Cameron on 01634 276166, Virgin Media – on 01634 303976.

A228 MALLING ROAD, BEECH ROAD, MEREWORTH & B2016 SEVEN MILE LANE (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) (PROHIBITION OF RIGHT TURNS) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on A228 Malling Road, Mereworth between Beaufighter Road and The Street and from accessing Beaufighter Road from Beech Road and vice versa on or after Sunday 25th July 2010 until 5th September 2010 or until such works are completed.

The right hand turns for traffic travelling in a northerly direction on B2016 Seven Mile Lane should be prohibited into the following roads: Willow Wents, Beech Road, Comp Lane, Teston Road and A20 London Road.

An exception will be made to allow buses only, to turn right from B2016 Seven Mile Lane into Teston Road.

The alternative route for A20 London Road will be westbound to the Nepicar (M26) roundabout, returning eastbound to A20 London Road.

Southern Gas Networks and Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for gas mains replacement and carriageway repairs. Should you require any further information regarding these works, the contacts are John Adsley for SGN on 01233 714082 and Robert Seggie for Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

HATHAM GREEN LANE STANSTEAD (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Hathem Green Lane Stanstead from outside Parsonage Farm on or after Monday 22nd August 2010 up to 5 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is Plaxdale Green Road, Malthouse Road, Pease Hill, South Ash Road and Ash Lane and vice versa.

EDF apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to install a new electrical supply.

Should you require any further information the contact is Steve Bicknell on 0800 0835234.

R/O 45 BRADBOURNE LANE, DITTON (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC ORDER) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intend to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Bradbourne Lane, Ditton Tuesday 3rd August 2010 for a period of up to 3 Days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above Bradbourne Lane along St Peters Road then along New Road and London Road (A20).

South East Water apologise for any inconvenience caused by the work to provide a water connection to 4 properties Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Bob Harrison on 07734 85923.

WOODLANDS ROAD, DITTON (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Woodlands Road between New Road and Primrose Drive on or after Wednesday 4th August 2010 for a period of up to 6 working days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via New Road, A20 London Road, Woodlands Road.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for essential carriageway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Robert Seggie on 08458 247 800.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

BENENDEN ROAD, CRANBROOK (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Benenden Road from Fridays to Tilsden Lane, on or after Monday 19th July 2010 for an estimated period of up to 3 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Tilsden Lane, Golford Road, New Pond Road, Mounts Hill, Cranbrook Road.

EDF Energy apologise for any inconvenience caused, which are necessary to repair the carriageway. Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Colin Marsh of Skanska Utilities Ltd on 02075 104000.

SANDHURST ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Sandhurst Road between A264 Pembury Road and Sherwood Road on or after Sunday 25th July 2010 for a period of up to 5 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is for northbound traffic via A264 Pembury Road, A264 Calverley Road, A264 Crescent Road, A264 Church Road, A26 London Road, A26 Grosvenor Road, Upper Grosvenor Road, Sandhurst Road and southbound as above but uses Meadow Road and Goods Station Road at the junction of Upper Grosvenor Road and Grosvenor Road.

Southern Gas Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for gas mains replacement. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is John Adsley on 0800 111999.

VARIOUS ROADS, SPELDHURST (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the routes described in the Schedule.

The alternative routes as described will be noted in the schedule. Access will be maintained up to the points of closure. The Order will become effective on Sunday 25th July 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

Schedule	
Road name: Barden Road, Speldhurst	Northfields to Furzeffield Avenue
Extent:	Start: 25th July 2010 /
Dates:	End: 6th September 2010
Diversion:	Barden Road, B2176 Penshurst Road, Poundsbridge Lane, Penshurst Road, Speldhurst Hill
Road name: Northfields, Speldhurst	Junction with Barden Road
Extent:	Start: 23rd August 2010 /
Dates:	End: 17th September 2010
Diversion:	Barden Road, Speldhurst Hill, Penshurst Road, Northfields
Road name: Northfields, Speldhurst	Junction with Penshurst Road
Extent:	Start: 4th October 2010 /
Dates:	End: 8th November 2010
Diversion:	Penshurst Road, Speldhurst Hill, Barden Road, Northfields
Road name: Penshurst Road, Speldhurst	Northfields to The Old Oast
Extent:	Start: 11th October 2010 /
Dates:	End: 8th November 2010
Diversion:	Penshurst Road, Speldhurst Hill, Barden Road, Northfields
Road name: Penshurst Road, Speldhurst	Northfields to Milford House
Extent:	Start: 8th November 2010 /
Dates:	End: 6th December 2010
Diversion:	Penshurst Road, Poundsbridge Lane, B2176 Penshurst Road, Barden Road, Northfields

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate gas mains replacement works to be undertaken by Southern Gas Networks.

Please note: Access will be maintained for all residents, businesses and their visitors as much as possible during the works.

For further information please call John Adsley of SGN on 08458 070 1431.

A228 MAIDSTONE ROAD & A228 WHETSTED ROAD, CAPEL (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) (30MPH SPEED RESTRICTION) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic traveling at any speed greater than 30mph on A228 Maidstone Road from Maidstone Road to B2017 Badsell Road and A228 Whetsted Road from Whetsted Farm to Lindow Lea Farm on or after Monday 2nd August 2010 for a period of up to 12 days or until such works are completed. Also through traffic will be prohibited on A228 Maidstone Road from Maidstone Road to Alders Road between 19:00hrs and 07:00hrs on or after Saturday 7th August/ 8th August 2010 and Saturday 14th August/15th August 2010 or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via B2017 Five Oak Green Road, B2017 Tudeley Lane, A26 Woodgate Way, A2014 Pembury Road, A21 Castle Hill, A21 Tonbridge Road, Tonbridge Road, A228 Pembury Northern By-Pass and vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused, which are necessary for essential highway works. Should you require any further information, the contact is Darren Hickman on 08458 247 800.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **The Fighting Cocks, The Street, Horton Kirby**

Applicant: **Christopher Maskery**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the grant of an approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
1st Floor, Invicta House,
Maidstone, ME14 1XX



GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

Martin Clive Glidewell trading as MTRANS of 23 Birkdale Road, Abbeywood, London, SE2 9HU is applying to change an existing licence as follows. To add an operating centre to keep 1 goods vehicles and 1 trailers at Unit 8, Mulberry Way, Belvedere, Kent, DA17 6AN

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at VOSA, Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

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KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949
AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

Applications have been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as venues for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **Tonbridge Castle, Castle Street, Tonbridge**

Applicant: **Elizabeth Roberts**

Name of Premises: **Sevenoaks Town Council, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks**

Applicant: **Ann White**

The applications and plans of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey, Head of Registration
First Floor, Invicta House
Maidstone
Kent, ME14 1XX



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**TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCIL
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING
(GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT) ORDER 1995****NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF A DIRECTION UNDER ARTICLE 4(1)
TO WHICH ARTICLE 6 APPLIES**

NOTICE is hereby given that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council ("the Authority") has made a Direction under Article 4(1) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 to which Article 6 applies ("the Direction").

The Direction applies to development of the type specified in the First Schedule to this Notice within the area described in the Second Schedule to this Notice.

The effect of the Direction is that permission granted by article 3 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 1995 shall not apply to development of the type specified in the First Schedule to this Notice and that such development shall not be carried out within the area specified in the Second Schedule to this Notice unless planning permission is granted by the Authority on an application made to the Authority under Part III of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

A copy of the Direction and of the map defining the area of land covered by it may be seen at the Council's Tunbridge Wells Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB between the hours of 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday (except Thursday 9am to 6.30pm) or 10am and 4pm on Saturday.

You have the right to make representations or objections in respect of the Direction. Any such representations or objections must be made in writing to the Head of Planning Services, Town Hall, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1RS, within 21 days from the 19 July 2010.

The Direction was made by the Authority on 13 July 2010 and comes into force in relation to the area specified in the Second Schedule to this Notice on the 17 July 2010 which is the date on which this Notice is first published. However, the Direction will expire on 16 January 2011 unless confirmed by the local planning authority before the end of the six month period.

FIRST SCHEDULE

The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995

SCHEDULE 2 PART 2 - MINOR OPERATIONS
Class A

The erection, construction, maintenance, improvement or alteration of a gate, fence, wall or other means of enclosure.

SCHEDULE 2 PART 4 - TEMPORARY BUILDINGS AND USES
Class B

The use of the land for any purpose for not more than 28 days in total in any calendar year, of which not more than 14 days in total may be for the purposes referred to in paragraph B.2, and the provision on the land of any movable structure for the purpose of the permitted use.

SECOND SCHEDULE

A parcel of land having an area of some 0.606524 hectares west of Pixot Hill, Brenchley, Kent.

Paul Cummins, Legal Services Manager,
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council,
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1RS
Dated : 17 July 2010



To advertise in this section



01303 817040

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

- 10/01816/LBC St Georges Club The Street, Benenden**
- Listed Building Consent - Installation of small mezzanine storage floor (LB)
- 10/02036/FUL OS Plots 3100 & 3600 Crittenden Road, Brenchley**
- Part retrospective: New entrance crossover, drive, fencing and gate for Mr & Mrs T Lear (PROW)
- 10/02142/FUL 61A Grosvenor Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden**
- Removal and installation of four windows located at the front of the property (CA)
- 10/02162/LBC Summerhill House/The Cottage 73 London Road, Culverden**
- Listed Building Consent: Works of alteration and repair to facilitate the use of the building as a single family dwelling (LB)
- 10/02161/HOUSE Providence Chapel Biddenden Road, Frittenden**
- Modification of existing extension to include: removal of roof and rear wall, extension to the rear of the existing extension, new raised roof to create new first floor within the extension for Mr R Hyam (LB) (PROW)
- 10/02196/FUL Three Chimneys Farm Bedgebury Road, Goudhurst**
- Use of land for sand school for Mrs Marion Fuller (PROW)
- 10/02209/HOUSE 2 Fair Throws Conghurst Lane, Hawkhurst**
- Extension of Time: Two-storey rear extension (TW/05/01416/FUL refers) for Mr & Mrs L Hughes (PROW)
- 10/02145/FUL Black Pig Pub 18 Grove Hill Road, Park**
- External staircase from first floor at the rear of the property (CA)
- 10/02169/FUL 18 Poundfield Sandhurst, Sandhurst**
- Erection of a detached chalet bungalow on land adjacent (CA) (LB)
- 10/02203/FUL Builder Center Longfield Road, Sherwood**
- Variation of condition 6 TW/91/0610 - Storage height restriction altered from 2 metres to 4 metres (retrospective) for Wolseley Uk Ltd (PROW)
- 10/00212/HOUSE Judds Farm Haydesen Lane, Bidborough**
- Four-storey rear extension (CA)
- 10/02101/FUL 28 Pennington Road Southborough, Southborough North**
- (Part site) Construction of new vicarage and access (CA)
- 10/02182/FUL Langton Green Village Hall Speldhurst Road, Speldhurst**
- Two single storey extensions to the existing village hall to provide a new small hall, parish room, DDA compliant wc and shower room and associated circulation, together with a glazed canopy for bicycle and pram storage and associated external works and landscaping (PROW) (CA)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 17 July 2010

**TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCIL
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT)
ORDER 1995****NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF A DIRECTION UNDER ARTICLE 4(1)**

NOTICE is hereby given that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council ("the Authority") has made a Direction under Article 4(1) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 ("the Direction").

The Direction applies to development of the type specified in the First Schedule to this Notice within the area described in the Second Schedule to this Notice.

The effect of the Direction is that permission granted by article 3 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 1995 shall not apply to development of the type specified in the First Schedule to this Notice and that such development shall not be carried out within the area specified in the Second Schedule to this Notice unless planning permission is granted by the Authority on an application made to the Authority under Part III of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

A copy of the Direction and of the map defining the area of land covered by it may be seen at the Council's Tunbridge Wells Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB between the hours of 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday (except Thursday 9am to 6.30pm) or 10am and 4pm on Saturday.

You have the right to make representations or objections in respect of the Direction. Any such representations or objections must be made in writing to the Head of Planning Services, Town Hall, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1RS, within 21 days from the 19 July 2010.

It is proposed that the Direction comes into force in relation to the area specified in the Second Schedule to this Notice on 16th August 2010.

FIRST SCHEDULE**The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995
SCHEDULE 2 PART 5 - CARAVAN SITES**

Class A

The use of the land, other than a building, as a caravan site in the circumstances referred to in paragraph A.2.

SCHEDULE 2 PART 6 - AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS AND OPERATIONS

Class A - Development on units of 5 hectares or more

- (a) Works for the erection, extension or alteration of a building; or
(b) any excavation or engineering operations

which are reasonably necessary for the purposes of agriculture within that unit.

Class B - Development on units of less than 5 hectares

- (a) the extension or alteration of an agricultural building;
(b) the installation of additional or replacement plant or machinery;
(c) the provision, rearrangement or replacement of a sewer, main, pipe, cable or other apparatus;
(d) the provision, rearrangement or replacement of a private way;
(e) the provision of a hard surface;
(f) the deposit of waste; or
(g) the carrying out of any of the following operations in connection with fish farming, namely, repairing ponds and raceways; the installation of grading machinery, seration equipment or flow meters and any associated channel; the dredging of ponds; and the replacement of tanks and nets, where the development is reasonably necessary for the purposes of agriculture within the unit.

SCHEDULE 2 PART 7 - FORESTRY BUILDINGS AND OPERATIONS

Class A

The carrying out on land used for the purposes of forestry, including afforestation, of development reasonably necessary for those purposes consisting of :-

- (a) works for the erection, extension or alteration of a building;
(b) the formation, alteration or maintenance of private ways;
(c) operations on that land, or on land held or occupied with that land, to obtain the materials required for the formation, alteration or maintenance of such ways;
(d) other operations (not including engineering or mining operations).

SECOND SCHEDULE

A parcel of land having an area of some 0.606524 hectares west of Pixot Hill Brenchley Kent.

Paul Cummins, Legal Services Manager,
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council,
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1RS.

Dated: 17 July 2010



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TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

- Advertisements will be accepted only on the express condition that the advertiser warrants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene any existing legislation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
- It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising meets all forms of government legislation and KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability in errors and omissions to the content of our media.
- All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
- All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement.
- Any unsuitable material posted on any website belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the advertiser or any associated third party will be removed or refused. All passwords and security supplied to the advertiser by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in relation to the use of the posting of material via the media owner's online administration tool will be the responsibility of the advertiser. The advertiser indemnifies KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd against any damages as a result of misuse of these privileges by either the advertiser or any third party given password privileges by the advertiser.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to change passwords intermittently to ensure the overall and ongoing security of its websites within the public domain.
- Copyright and licenses for voice-over/music/photography or film for advertising promotions or otherwise within the various forms of media in print, online and moving film owned by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must have been sought, verified or paid for by the advertiser when applicable. Approval or permissions must have been given by any potential beneficial owner voice-over or music. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd.
- Where shrinkage of an advertisement occurs for whatever reason, the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre where it relates to the media owner's printed publications. This will NOT apply to full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even when shrinkage occurs.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to omit or refuse any advertisement/commercial/web content without notice or explanation. In these terms the word "advertiser" shall be construed to include any person or organisation placing an advertisement on behalf of another.
- A guarantee of insertion cannot be given and the media owners shall not be liable for any loss or damage caused by any error inaccuracy within your marketing content. In no case shall the total liability of the media owner for any error or omission exceed the price charged by the media owners for that advertising.
- No liability is accepted for any loss or damage alleged to have arisen through delay in forwarding replies to Box numbers, however caused, nor for the loss or damage to any artwork supplied.
- Claims for any error or inaccuracy in your media messages with KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be made in writing to the accounts department within 10 days of publishing.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions made on their websites by the advertiser.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd has the right to cancel the advertiser's annual membership without notice should the advertiser deliberately publish out of date material or content on any of the media owner's online digital platforms. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd will seek to recover, in full, all outstanding invoices in relation to the signed annual membership as a result of the advertiser's negligence in this regard and reserves the right to claim damages for any potential wasteful action via the advertiser.
- Advertisers are requested to check their advertisements after the first insertion. The media owner will not be responsible for any errors on subsequent insertions, which have not been advised to them in writing.
- A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts from KOS Media's standard effective media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009) will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly in line with KOS Media's standard media rate card (effective July 2008-June 2009) and will reflect the increased length of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met in full by the advertiser as per KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009). Discounts will be reapplied and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by either party within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any other advertising placed must give a minimum of seven days' written notice and any discounts given for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
- Seasonal contracts, Your Professional classified advertisements or any uplift advertising within the annual contract with the advertiser will be invoiced in full - at rate card - on receipt of any written cancellation of this contract within the 12-months.
- All uplift advertisements must be booked in at least three months in advance of publication and will be subject to availability. All dates booked will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
- The advertiser must agree to the date and time of filming of any online TV advertising commercial supplied by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd within the advertiser's agreement. (Platinum, Gold, Silver standard of commercial). Should, for any reason, the advertiser not be available at the agreed time without giving sufficient notice (at least 48 hours), KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to charge for any further TV production at its standard published hourly rate should the advertiser still wish to use KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's production services to complete its TV commercial or photographic imagery included in the advertiser's agreement. The advertiser will approve and accept that there are only two choices of voice-over and music offered by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Should an advertiser wish to use other voice-overs or non-copyright free music, it is the responsibility of the advertiser to pay the PRS rights should they be required to do so. Any changes to or failure to approve the TV production by the deadlines agreed between both parties will result in KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd being given permission by the advertiser to replace the TV commercial with pictures or stills from a choice of photography supplied by the media owner until the advertiser can supply a TV commercial produced at their own cost and risk outside of this agreement. The advertiser also accepts and agrees that this action would not reduce the value or cost of their membership. Any cost of changes required to the TV commercial throughout the advertiser's agreement will be borne by the advertiser outside of this agreement.
- Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within the category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc) other than they will be ranked based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
- Any delivery claims made by the advertiser or discount vouchers published within the print or online media of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd and any action as a result of the public or otherwise is the sole responsibility of the advertiser. Any claims resulting from this via KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be met by the advertiser.
- a. All credit accounts due for payment shall be notified to the Advertiser by the 30th day following the date of the invoice, time to be of the essence. All sums due to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring shall be paid in full, and the Advertiser shall have no right of set off in any circumstances.
b. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring by the due date, the media owner shall be entitled to suspend all further advertising until payment is received and/or repudiate the contract and make any surcharges for breaking the contract.
c. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the due date, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdue balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Westminster Bank Plc from time to time in force.
d. Notwithstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the Advertiser ceasing to use the services of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (for whatever reason), the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.
e. The Advertiser will be liable for all costs incurred by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.
f. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
- Any discount which KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
- Advertising Agency commission will be allowed to those advertisers recognised by the Newspaper Society, but shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms.
- All private advertisements and certain categories as laid down by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
- The Advertiser agrees to indemnify KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owners or any third parties companies within the KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
- An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with them.
- Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belong to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's written consent.

All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

Effective from June 2008

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CLASS ACT: Jaguar's eye-catching XJ saloon (right) has continued the carmaker's resurgence, which began with the mid-sized XF (below) in 2008

By **STEVE LOADER**

JAGUAR'S resurgence has been on the cards since the mid-sized XF arrived on the market in 2008.

But the predictions have come to pass this year with the launch of the eye-catching XJ saloon (from £53,900), which immediately became the best-seller in its class in June – the first full month on sale.

It knocked the usual top dog, the Mercedes-Benz S-Class into second place with a 38 per cent better slice of sales, while BMW's 7-Series was outclassed by a 70 per cent better take-up.

This underlines a Jaguar management wisdom to ditch the formulaic and retro design of previous XJs, dating back to the 1960s, and also shows how well the smaller, but big-selling XF had prepared the market to look outside the German executive triumvirate of Merc, BMW and Audi.

In fact, sales for the British marque, now owned by the giant Indian TATA conglomerate, are currently 42.5 per cent up this year against the same period in 2009.

This is all the more impressive, because Jaguar's X-Type baby model – expected to soak up a good proportion of brand sales – was dropped altogether last year, leaving its bigger and more expensive sisters to plug the sales gap and go on to make the conquests mentioned above.

Jaguar managing director Geoff Cousins

Jaguar flagship sails into lead



said: "Like the XF, 60 per cent of people that have ordered an XJ are new to the Jaguar brand, with owners of premium German brands proving to be the keenest to buy an XJ. This highlights just how well the XJ has been received among Britain's leading businessmen. The modern Jaguar showroom is now complete – with the new XJ joining the XF and XK in UK show-

rooms during May. We have got off to a great start, with more than 600 new XJs already on the road in the UK and customer deliveries now starting in earnest."

The XF continues to impress with a sales increase of nearly 50 per cent so far this year and its 13th consecutive month-on-month improvement.

All of this has had a knock-on effect in

favour of the XK Coupé and Convertible line-up – launched in 2006. History may show this model as the pivot for the Jaguar revival.

Sales of the XK rose 60.7 per cent in June with 188 cars sold compared with 117 last year and are currently 22.5 per cent up against early 2009 – not bad for a big sports car selling into an economic downturn. The XK range starts at £62,500 for the 5.0-litre V8 petrol and the XKR starts at £75,500.

Pricing for the XF range now starts at £29,900 for the 3.0-litre petrol; the 3.0-litre diesel model is available from £34,900 for the 240 PS (237bhp) engine; while the highly-sought after 275 PS (272bhp) 3.0-litre diesel S starts at £38,600.

There is also the rapid XFR (£62,055).



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09 FORD FOCUS TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 650 MILES.....	£14,995
09 MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE 5DR TO HATCH AUTO, STEPPED BROWN, 8000 MILES.....	£13,995
09 MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE LWB 5DR HATCH AUTO, BROWN, 5000 MILES.....	£12,995
09 FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 MILES.....	£12,995
09 MAZDA 3 3 TAKARA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 7000 MILES.....	£12,495
09 FORD FOCUS C-MAX ZETEC 145 MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 MILES.....	£11,995
09 FORD FUSION TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1400 MILES.....	£11,995
09 SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 MILES.....	£10,495
09 NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, GREY, 1800 MILES.....	£10,495
09 NISSAN NOTE ASENTA MPV AUTO, BEIGE/BUFF, 2000 MILES.....	£10,495
09 NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 MILES.....	£9,995
09 DAIHATSU MATERIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, MAROON, 1200 MILES.....	£9,995
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09 KIA PICANTO 2 5DR HATCH AUTO, ORANGE, 2000 MILES.....	£7,995
09 PEUGEOT 107 URBAN 5DR HATCH AUTO, YELLOW, 1500 MILES.....	£7,995
09 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 5000 MILES.....	£6,495

CONVERTIBLES CABRIOLETS

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08 RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, RED, 5000 MILES.....	£12,995
07 NISSAN MICRA ASENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 5000 MILES.....	£10,995
08 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 11000 MILES.....	£10,995
06 NISSAN MICRA CC SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 12000 MILES.....	£9,995
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06 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 MILES.....	£8,995
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05 VAUXHALL TIGRA SPORT 16V TWINPORT COUPE, BLACK, 25000 MILES.....	£7,995
05 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT COUPE CABRIOLET CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 38000 MILES.....	£7,495

FIESTA

09 VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 3000 MILES.....	£10,995
06 FORD FIESTA ZETEC CLIMATE 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, TONIC BLUE, 1600 MILES.....	£7,495
07 FORD FIESTA STYLE CLIMATE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 19000 MILES.....	£6,995
02 FORD FIESTA GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 40000 MILES.....	£3,995

FOCUS HATCH & SALOON

09 FORD FOCUS TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 650 MILES.....	£14,995
09 FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 MILES.....	£12,995
08 FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 3000 MILES.....	£11,995
08 FORD FOCUS ZETEC 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 4000 MILES.....	£9,995
08 FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 6000 MILES.....	£9,995
08 FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 7000 MILES.....	£8,995
07 FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V ESTATE AUTO, TONIC BLUE, 18000 MILES.....	£7,495
05 FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 27000 MILES.....	£6,995
03 FORD FOCUS GHIA SALOON AUTO, RED, 48000 MILES.....	£4,995

FOCUS ESTATES

09 FORD FOCUS C-MAX ZETEC 145 MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 MILES.....	£11,995
07 FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 15000 MILES.....	£7,995
06 FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 MILES.....	£7,495
06 FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V ESTATE AUTO, TONIC BLUE, 18000 MILES.....	£6,995
06 FORD FOCUS LX 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 MILES.....	£6,995
06 FORD FOCUS LX 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 MILES.....	£6,995

RENAULT SCENIC

08 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIC TO MPV AUTO, EXTREME BLUE, 10000 MILES.....	£10,995
08 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIC VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, RED, 6000 MILES.....	£9,995
07 RENAULT GRAND SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 136 75TR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 15000 MILES.....	£9,995
08 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIC VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 MILES.....	£9,995
07 RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GOLD, 9000 MILES.....	£8,995
07 RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 136 MPV AUTO, GOLD, 23000 MILES.....	£8,995
08 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIC VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLACK, 18000 MILES.....	£8,495
08 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIC VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 19000 MILES.....	£8,495
07 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIC VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLACK, 15000 MILES.....	£7,995
06 RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT MPV AUTO, BLACK, 16000 MILES.....	£7,995
06 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIC VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 16000 MILES.....	£7,495
06 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIC VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GOLD, 16000 MILES.....	£7,495
06 RENAULT MEGANE SCENIC DYNAMIC VVT 111 ESTATE AUTO, GOLD, 17000 MILES.....	£6,995
06 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIC VVT MPV AUTO, BLUE, 19000 MILES.....	£6,495

RENAULT

08 RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, RED, 5000 MILES.....	£12,995
08 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIC VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 11000 MILES.....	£10,995
06 RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 136 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 16000 MILES.....	£9,995
06 RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 MILES.....	£9,995
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06 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIC VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 MILES.....	£8,995
06 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIC VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 19000 MILES.....	£8,995
06 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIC VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 MILES.....	£8,995
08 RENAULT MEGANE EXPRESSION VVT 111 ESTATE CAR ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 6000 MILES.....	£8,995
08 RENAULT Clio EXPRESSION 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 750 MILES.....	£7,995
08 RENAULT Clio EXPRESSION 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 MILES.....	£7,995
07 RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREY, 16000 MILES.....	£7,995
07 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIC VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 15000 MILES.....	£7,995
05 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIC VVT COUPE CABRIOLET CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 38000 MILES.....	£7,495
06 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIC VVT MPV AUTO, GOLD, 21000 MILES.....	£6,995
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09 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 9000 MILES.....	£7,495
08 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 5000 MILES.....	£6,995
08 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 MILES.....	£6,995
08 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 5000 MILES.....	£6,495
07 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 17000 MILES.....	£5,995
06 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 MILES.....	£5,995
06 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 MILES.....	£5,495
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07 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 MILES.....	£4,995
07 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 14000 MILES.....	£4,995
05 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 28000 MILES.....	£3,995

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08 HYUNDAI GETZ GSI 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 MILES.....	£7,995
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07 HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, YELLOW, 9000 MILES.....	£5,995
06 HYUNDAI GETZ CDX 5DR HATCH, SEASIDE BLUE, 40000 MILES.....	£4,995
06 HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 10000 MILES.....	£4,995
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09 KIA PICANTO 2 5DR HATCH AUTO, ORANGE, 2000 MILES.....	£7,995
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09 DAIHATSU MATERIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, MAROON, 1900 MILES.....	£9,995
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05 BMW 3 SERIES 320D ES TOURING TO ESTATE, GREY, 5100 MILES.....	£12,995
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FIAT

06 FIAT PANDA ELEGANZA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 MILES.....	£5,995
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10 FORD FUSION TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1400 MILES.....	£11,995
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08 FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 MILES.....	£8,995
07 FORD FUSION ZETEC CLIMATE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 MILES.....	£8,995
09 FORD FUSION STYLE CLIMATE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 5000 MILES.....	£8,995
07 FORD FUSION ZETEC CLIMATE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 4000 MILES.....	£6,995

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08 CITROEN C4 SX 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 1800 MILES.....	£9,995
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MONDEO

06 FORD MONDEO GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 MILES.....	£7,995
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CORSA

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TOYOTA

07 TOYOTA COROLLA VERSO T3 VVT-I MPV, RED, 25000 MILES.....	£10,495
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07 TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 MILES.....	£9,995
07 TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ION BLUE, 13000 MILES.....	£9,995
08 TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 6000 MILES.....	£8,995
08 TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 MILES.....	£8,995
07 TOYOTA AURIS T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 MILES.....	£8,995
07 TOYOTA YARIS T3 SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, VENETIAN SILVER, 23000 MILES.....	£7,495
04 TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 MILES.....	£6,995
07 TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 13000 MILES.....	£6,995
04 TOYOTA YARIS T3 SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 25000 MILES.....	£5,995

NISSAN

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04 NISSAN ALMERA TINO S 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 31000 MILES.....	£4,995
03 NISSAN ALMERA TINO S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 32000 MILES.....	£4,495
02 NISSAN MICRA S 5DR HATCH, RED, 27000 MILES.....	£2,995

ROVER

03 ROVER 45 IMPRESSION S 3 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 43000 MILES.....	£2,995
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ASTRA HATCHBACKS

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07 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 MILES.....	£8,995
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 10000 MILES.....	£8,495
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, TURQUOISE, 10000 MILES.....	£7,995
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 10000 MILES.....	£7,995
06 VAUXHALL ASTRA SXI 16V TWINPORT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 MILES.....	£6,995
06 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 7000 MILES.....	£6,495

ASTRA ESTATES

08 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, ECLIPSE BLACK, 5000 MILES.....	£10,995
07 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, PANACOTTA, 15000 MILES.....	£8,995
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 MILES.....	£8,495
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 7000 MILES.....	£7,995
07 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 MILES.....	£7,995
07 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 15000 MILES.....	£7,495
06 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V ESTATE AUTO, PANACOTTA, 13000 MILES.....	£7,495
06 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 13000 MILES.....	£7,495
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09 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TO MPV AUTO, BLACK, 750 MILES.....	£14,995
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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

Green signal from Vauxhall

VAUXHALL has cut the CO2 and fuel consumption on key models in its European Car of the Year-winning Insignia range.

Emissions on the line-up's greenest model, the Ecoflex, have now dropped from 136g/km of CO2 to just 129g/km with combined fuel consumption boosted from 54.3mpg to 57.6mpg.

In addition to cheaper running

costs this also means the Ecoflex qualifies for road tax exemption in its first year.

But Vauxhall claims that you don't have to drive the 'hair shirt' Ecoflex Insignias to save on running costs and BiK (Benefit in Kind) company car taxation – not that the Ecoflexes are horrible to drive. Prices (from £18,925) also remain unchanged.



Juke crossover given early exposure



NISSAN dealers across Kent are stoking interest in what is likely to be the Japanese brand's next UK-built champion – the Juke.

Preview events are being staged later this month for the junior crossover model, fitting into the range beneath the highly successful Qashqai crossover.

Its bulldog styling is hard to ignore and dealers hope that some limited exposure can be converted into firm orders ahead of the official launch on September 24.

Despite the looks, the Juke is part sports car-cum-MPV and family hatchback with an option to have 4x4 too, and priced from a not unreasonable £12,795, with a full range of accessories for personalisation.

With the summer already well-established, Nissan has also unveiled a tempting two-year interest free PCP finance deal on its 370Z Coupé and Roadster, available for as little as £299 per month, interest free after a 25 per cent deposit.

Coupé hallmarks for the all-new 508

WE WON'T see it on the road until early next year, but here's how Peugeot will further transform its image and shake up the family/company car market.

The new Mondeo basher is the 508 model, taking styling cues from the sharp SR1 coupé concept that everyone wants the French marque to put into production, though it refuses to say 'oui' or 'non' on the matter.

The 508 will do for now though; it's a stunning replacement for the 407, which never looked right in my book and is now well out-classed in the driving department. Hybrid technology will be offered in the 508 on top of an array of fuel and emissions savings technology.



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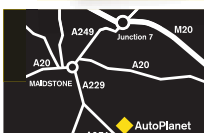
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TV star backs big bike celebration

CHANNEL Five's Gadget Show presenter, former BBC MotoGP host and high-profile bike fan Suzi Perry is backing National Motorcycle Week (NMW) starting this weekend.

Highlight of the week is Ride to Work Day on Wednesday, designed to promote motorcycling's practical as well as pleasurable benefits by helping to cut congestion, journey times, commuting times and pollution.

The big initiative this year though is Get On – Life is Better on Two-Wheels, a nationwide campaign by the Motor Cycle Industry (MCI)

by
STEVELOADER

to get more people on two wheels and includes the chance to book a free one-hour two-wheel taster session via www.geton.co.uk.

Perry, pictured centre, said: "Bikes have been a huge part of my life and are just such a fantastic way to get around. Not only do they help you get ahead of the traffic, but they're also more economical, greener and a huge amount of fun."

"For many people, the thought of getting into biking can be a bit intimidating and it can

often be confusing about what licences and training you need to be able to ride a bike.

"Get On strips all this away. Not only can anyone try riding for free without any commitment, but the website also offers a one-stop shop on all you need to know about getting into biking."

"What's even better is that you can win great prizes by just dropping into a dealer to talk about it."

Anyone can get involved in National Motorcycle Week and people who are interested in running their own events can think about planning a bikers' barbecue, a local charity fundraiser, extra training or going on a group ride.

There is also the incentive on Ride to Work Day for bike and scooter owners not only to commute on two wheels, but take a friend or colleague with them.

The £7 billion UK motorcycle industry employs 65,500 people directly in more than 6,350 businesses and exports are worth £370 million a year.

Triumph is its most significant manufacturer after trebling in size over the past decade and selling more than 80 per cent of its finished motorcycles overseas.

Norton, with a long history of producing hand-built quality motorcycles, continues to produce bespoke orders of high value, high performance bikes for both road and racing.



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Vehicles shown are Spark 1.2 LT at £10,145 with metallic paint at an extra cost of £365, Cruze 1.8 LT at £15,145 with metallic paint at an extra cost of £400. Available at participating Retailers only. Not in conjunction with any other offer. Offer available on all retail registrations from 9th July 2010 to 5th October 2010 apart from all Matiz models. Certain Retail stock does not qualify. 5 year warranty up to 100,000 miles, expires whichever occurs first. This offer includes Chevrolet's standard Customer Care Commitment for a 2 year unlimited mileage manufacturer's warranty, and third year manufacturer's warranty with a 60,000 miles limitation. The warranty excludes wear and tear and serviceable items and the vehicle has to be serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's servicing schedule. 5 years/50,000 miles servicing package, expires whichever occurs first. Beyond 50,000 miles the vehicle must be serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's servicing schedule to continue the 5 year warranty. MOT Test Warranty cover does not include the cost of the MOT test fee. MOT Test Warranty covers the MOTs carried out at year 3, 4 and 5 and has a limit of 100,000 miles. The MOT Test Warranty excludes accident damage, tyres, glass and bodywork and has a claim limit of £750 per MOT. Annual vehicle health checks have no mileage limitations. Roadside Assistance has no mileage limit but does not cover certain self-induced incidents. Terms and conditions apply. Please contact your nearest Retailer for details. Prices correct at time of press. Calls may be recorded and monitored for training purposes. (Chev97418)

Official Government Environmental Data. Fuel Consumption Figures MPG (Litres/100 km). Spark 1.2 LT: Urban 42.8 (6.6), Extra Urban 67.3 (4.2), Combined 55.4 (5.1), CO₂ Emissions 119 g/km. Cruze 1.8 LT: Urban 30.4 (9.3), Extra Urban 53.3 (5.3), Combined 41.5 (6.8), CO₂ Emissions 159 g/km

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Official Government fuel consumption figures(Range): Urban cycle, Extra urban, Combined (litres per 100km/mpg) & CO₂ emissions (g/km); Highest: Citroën C1 1.4HDi 55hp 5-door 5.3/53.3, 3.4/83.1, 4.1/68.9, 109. Lowest: Citroën C1 1.0i 68hp 5-door 5.5/51.4, 3.9/72.4, 4.5/62.8, 106.

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VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data – Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): Vauxhall Range: urban 16.6 (17.0) – 61.4 (4.6), extra urban 32.8 (8.6) – 88.3 (3.2), combined 24.2 (11.7) – 76.3 (3.7). CO2 Emissions 274 – 98 g/km.

*Savings based on Corsa Special Edition as advertised. All offers and vehicles offered are subject to availability while stocks last. Offers apply to vehicles purchased and registered between 01/07/10 and 31/08/10, terms and conditions apply. Prices shown are including £3000 Vauxhall Swappage discount. The Vauxhall Swappage Scheme applies to customers trading in a qualifying car or commercial vehicle (up to 3.5 tonnes) against the purchase of selected new Vauxhall models when ordered or registered between 01/07/2010 and 31/08/10. At the date of the new vehicle order, the vehicle traded in must be 7 years old or older from date of first registration in the UK. To qualify for the scheme, the owner of the trade vehicle (or their spouse/partner living at the same UK address) must be named as the registered keeper and resident at the UK address shown on the Vehicle Registration Document (V5C) and have owned the vehicle for a minimum of 90 days. The new vehicle must be registered at the same address. The vehicle must have a valid MOT and road tax (or that has expired no earlier than 14 days prior to the new vehicle order date) and be insured at the date of the new vehicle order. The Vauxhall Swappage Scheme cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. All Swappage discounts are inclusive of VAT. Offers available to private customers, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-34 (purchase only), on selected WJ King stocks of participating WJ King dealers only. Please note, models portrayed are for illustration purposes only and may not represent actual model. WJ King reserve the right to withdraw any offer at any time. £39 inc. VAT admin fee (security checks and fuel) will be added to all vehicle purchases, this includes £20 worth of fuel. Telephone calls may be recorded for training purposes. E&OE.



Mazda rises above mainstream

DrivingReview



by

STEVE LOADER

 CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
 steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

Mazda6

HOUNDED mercilessly by ambitious upstart brands like Hyundai, Kia and Chevrolet, mainstream stalwarts Ford and Vauxhall have sought to re-position themselves in the market.

They would like to be sitting comfortably in a 'more premium' refuge first identified by VW, then Honda and now Mazda.

It is a quite a feat for the Japanese marque, which struggled until it adopted its sporty Zoom-Zoom marketing and shook up a faltering conventional model array, which had contrasted all too strongly with the cult status of the marque's much-loved MX-5 roadster.

The first of these new-look everyday cars was the Ford Mondeo equivalent Mazda6 launched in 2002; it set Mazda well on the way to the strong position it holds today and was followed in 2007 by an even better version, recently

given a facelift. There used to be a saloon, but a much streamlined range now concentrates on hatchback and estate styles – both equally good looking though the latter is not available with the entry-level 1.8-litre petrol engine.

Not that you would panic as it's no ball of fire for this dynamic looking car and hardly much better on fuel than livelier sister models.

Our Mazda6 estate test car (from £19,295) had the 152bhp 2.0-litre petrol though past experience suggests the smooth 2.2-diesel alternatives are the better bet, available in 160bhp and 177bhp outputs.

Both have good low-down pulling power – ideal if you intend to buy and use the estate to full capacity – and will average 50+mpg.

The main points of difference are that the bigger-hitter is slightly faster to 62mph – 8.7 seconds against 9.2 – but will set you back £23,445, being only sold in flagship Sport spec.

A good compromise is the popular mid-range TS2 spec seen here, available in junior 2.2

diesel estate format for £21,495, though it is worth shopping around at present for the Takuya special edition for just £100 more and carrying extra kit.

The big highlight of the '6' whether in hatchback or estate form is the spacious and airy cabin and huge boot with lots of storage underneath, helped by the lack of a spare wheel – part of Mazda's drive to cut weight, consumption and emissions.

This is laudable, of course, until you get a catastrophic puncture that the sealant/repair outfit cannot deal with.

There is an automatic boot cover arrangement, though this did not always retract properly when lifting the test car's tailgate.

One Mazda6 hallmark that does succeed brilliantly though is the Karakuri rear seat release system now being copied by other makers; one pull of the lever in the boot and the corresponding rear seat flops down automatically to make it easy to cram stuff into the

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the I-Music range are: Urban 28.5-37.2 (9.9-7.6), Extra Urban 47.9-57.6 (5.9-4.9), Combined 38.2-47.9 (7.4-5.9). The official CO₂ emission figures for the range are 174-139g/km. Prices include delivery to dealer, number plates, 17.5% VAT, 12 months' Government road fund licence and £55 first registration fee. Finance is subject to status, a guarantor may be required, written quotations on request. Finance provided by Renault UK and RCI Financial Services Limited, P.O. Box 493 Watford WD17 1FL. These offers are available to retail customers only. These offers are not available in conjunction with any other offers and are correct at time of going to press. Offers must end 31st September 2010. Cars shown have optional metallic paint (option price £405). Examples above exclude cost of optional metallic paint.



load bay. There is also plenty of rear legroom and a good centre armrest.

Everything works well and doors close with a nice clunk, despite the fact that a lot of weight has been taken out of the car.

This is also evident in the handling. The Mazda is not skittish, but feels very responsive and sporty – a real point-and-shoot car for its size – though some may say the trade-off is a rather firm ride.

Repeating the message of space in the back is the generous amount of room and stowage in the front, with a deep armrest bin.

Mazda also has a tidy gimmick-free method of arranging the controls, though a little more evident quality in the materials would underpin the marque's rising status in the market.

Still, they do their job and fall nicely to hand.

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DrivingPortfolio

MAZDA6 2.0 TS2 ESTATE PETROL
£20,495

Driving appeal (OUT OF FIVE)	★★★★
Image	★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
How green?	★★★★
Road tax	£200/year (£300 in year one)
Best rival	Ford Mondeo

TheVerdict



DON'T LIKE:

the slightly cheap feel of some cabin materials



NOT SURE:

Mazda can yet challenge Volkswagen in this quality executive/mainstream sector



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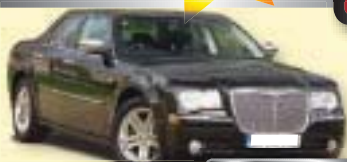
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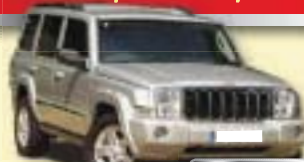
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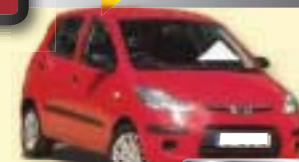
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GL08ZYX - 08 08, 22,000 Miles*, **Chrysler Grand Voyager 2.8 CRD Touring**, Metallic Silver, Black Cloth inter, Climate Con, Elec Heat/Folding Door Mirrors, 6 Speakers, Front Elec Winds, PAS, Rear Dual DVD System, Driver Electric Seats, Front Fogs, Radio/CD/MP3/DVD, ISOFIX Anchorage Point, Trip Computer **£19,994**

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KY59HVE - 09 09, 10,000 Miles*, **Jeep Grand Cherokee 3.0 CRD Overland**, Metallic Graphite, Medium Slate Grey Leather inter, Cruise Con, Front/Rear Parking Aid, Radio/CD, Driver Info Syst, Sunroof, Elec/Heat/Folding Door Mirrors, Rain Sensor, Sat Nav, Driver/Pass Heated Seats, Front Fogs, PAS **£29,995**

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GL09NXP - 07 09, 15,000 Miles*, **Hyundai i20 1.2 Classic 5-Door Hatchback**, Metallic Black, Black Cloth inter, Air Con, Centre Rear Seat Belt, Elec Stability Prog, Radio/CD/MP3, ABS, Driver Seat Height Adjustment, 4 Speakers, Adjust Steering, Centre Console, Air Bags, Front Elec Winds, PAS, ISOFIX Anchorage Point **£7,995**

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GF07XHZ - 05 07, 38,500 Miles*, **Suzuki Grand Vitara 1.9 DDIS 5-Door Estate**, Metallic Silver, Black interior, Air Con, Elec/Heat/Fold Door Mirrors, Preparation Towing Equipment, Sunroof, Body Col Bumps, Front Fogs, Radio/CD, Roof Rails, Tinted Glass, PAS, Adjustable Steering, Speakers, Trip Computer **£10,994**

GF07DZW - 04 07, 21,350 Miles*, **Nissan Qashqai 1.5 dCi Acenta 2WD 5-Door Hatchback**, Metallic Silver, Black interior, ABS, Armrests, Radio/CD Autochanger, ISOFIX Anchor Point, Clim Cont, Elec/Heat Door Mirrors, Electric Windows, Telephone Equipment, Cruise Con, Front Fogs, Rear Parking Aid, Trip **£11,994**

*Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of all the above information, including mileage and specification. However, as errors do occur, please do not rely entirely on this information, but check with your Dealer about items which may effect your decision to purchase.



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- Check drive belts (excludes cam belt)
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- Check brake pipes and lines
- Check exhaust system
- Inspect tyres and set pressures
- Report on tyre tread depth
- Visually check cooling system for leaks
- Check antifreeze content
- Check drive belts (excludes cam belt)
- Check all fluid levels
- Check battery condition
- Visually check front brakes pads and discs
- Check suspension dampers
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S-MAX, 2.0 Titanium TDCi, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player climate control cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid tinted glass tonneau cover trip computer front parking sensors remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls dab radio, chill silver, 2852 miles, £19000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

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ACCORD, 2.2 i-CTDI EX, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering tinted glass curtain airbags remote central locking, flint grey, 45294 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CIVIC, 1.8 SE, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint, black, 15000 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

S-TYPE, V6 Sport Diesel, 7935079, air conditioning, dual climate zones, full leather, remote alarm, remote central locking, centre armrest, electric seats, head restraints, height adjustable seat, rear armrest, rear headrest, adjustable steering column, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, parking sensor, power steering, trip computer, traction control, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, electric windows, electric mirrors, cd player, radio, alloy wheels, blue, 71000 miles, £9995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

X-TYPE, 2.2D SE, 2008, abs brakes alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player climate control diesel electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 15000 miles, £16000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

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DIABLO, 1998, purple metallic with cream leather, 57000 miles, £59950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

MINI

COOPER, JCW Chili pack, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering trip computer remote central locking, blue, 28000 miles, £13500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

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SAAB 9-3 1.9TID Linear, 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Diesel, 2006 06 Reg., 70,763 miles, Metallic BLUE, MOT-04-2011, 2 Owners. ABS, Air conditioning, Heated door mirrors, Folding rear seats, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Steering wheel reach adjustment, 3x3 point rear seat belts, Steering wheel rake adjustment, Alloy wheels, Multi function steering wheel, Full Service History, Immobiliser, Cloth upholstery, Side airbags, Front electric windows, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, Audio remote control, Cloth seat trim, Isofix child seat anchor points, Front head restraints, Passenger airbag, Remote central locking, Drivers airbag, Service indicator, Space saver spare wheel, Alarm, Front armrest, Rear armrest, Traction control, Body coloured bumpers, PAS, Trip computer, Height adjustable drivers seat, Anti theft system, Child locks. Insurance Group:12, Bluetooth phone connection. **£6,295**

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

THIS week's Big Interview is with a man who wants the shirt off your back – so he can sell you one of his own classic Charles Tyrwhitt creations.

He's Nick Wheeler, who wants to conquer high streets and shopping malls after building a mail order and internet shopping empire – he has just picked Kent's Bluewater shopping centre for his 13th store.

And this week's Spotlight is trained on hospitality, travel and tourism and several reasons why there is a feel-good factor in that sector.

**STEVE LOADER**

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KEY PARTNERS

US equity firm woos 'old school' mutual

By **STEVE LOADER**

steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

BRITAIN'S oldest building society – Kent Reliance – was in talks this week with a US private equity firm to create a new-look lender tipped to trigger changes in a troubled sector.

Since the collapse of Northern Rock in 2007, traditional mutual societies like Kent Reliance have found it harder to raise or attract cash to build their businesses.

Nevertheless, JC Flowers' move on Kent Reliance Building Society (KRBS) was not only unprecedented in this sector, but may also be that firm's first step towards snapping up several smaller societies to create a new UK bank and shake-up that industry.

JC Flowers was set-up in 2001 by Christopher Flowers, a former partner in prestigious American banking and finance firm Goldman Sachs, who has already made abortive moves to buy into Northern Rock, Friends Provident, and Bradford and Bingley.

He is now wooing KRBS, with managers under chief executive Mike Lazenby using the society's website to issue a brief statement: "Kent Reliance Building Society today announces that it is in talks with JC Flowers and Co to create a new corporate structure for the Kent Reliance business."

"If the new structure proceeds, it would allow for substantial new capital investment to support the business and would provide a means for the society's members to remain members of a mutual organisation."

Flowers has reportedly tabled a relatively small £50 million bid for a 49 per cent stake in a business with assets of at least £2.2 billion, some 180,000 members and 45 staff.



Picture: PER DALENG

FAIR PLAY: Shirt sponsorship deals with Whitstable Town, above, and other local sides have raised Kent Reliance's profile

According to the Daily Telegraph this week, KRBS has been looking for some kind of buyout deal since 2006 that would unlock windfall rewards for those at the top, though it also reported that Mr Lazenby insisted those proposals bore no relationship to the current deal being discussed. KRBS is a conglomerate of several

county building societies – the oldest being Kent and Canterbury founded in 1847. Such organisations were conceived to build houses for their members, later concentrating more on money and mortgage lending.

The Kent society was regarded as one of the most traditional in Britain, side-stepping the demutualisation frenzy of the early 1990s when many societies converted to or were taken over by banks.

However, it has been one of the fastest growing in the country over the past decade, while slashing overheads and pruning customer-facing assets. Fourteen outlets have been cut to eight and only two of these are now full branches – in Chatham and at Hempstead – with Mr Lazenby having labelled traditional branches as liabilities. While lacking a profile on Kent high streets, KRBS has sought it elsewhere through sponsorship deals with football clubs Gillingham, Charlton Athletic and Whitstable Town.

Bigger fish

Since the demutualisation era, the former minnow from Kent has also become a bigger fish, ranked 12th nationally, though still some way behind the great white shark that is the Nationwide (£190bn assets) and a few other majors such as the newly-merged Yorkshire and Chelsea (£38bn).

However, like many remaining societies it has run out of steam as money supplies tightened due to the collapse of the banking sector and tougher regulations.

There have already been mergers and consolidations in the sector and this might persuade the Financial Services Authority to bless a proposed KRBS deal, though society members might ask why vote 'yes' unless the would-be partners offer them an old-fashioned demutualisation pay-off – something apparently ruled out by the statement vowing to continue as a mutual society.

Public sector pensions shake-up call

BUSINESS leaders in Kent have backed calls for radical reform of the public sector pensions system.

They say it over-burdens taxpayers and that the traditional argument for better public sector pensions in lieu of lower salaries, has collapses now that wages match and often exceed the private sector.

The Institute of Directors (IoD) and the Institute of Economic Affairs have combined to set-up the Public Sector Pensions Commission, calling for Government reform of pensions for NHS staff, teachers, police, civil servants and other public employees.

While urging parity with private sector pensions, the commission has highlighted the soaring cost to the taxpayer of funding public sector retirees. Of a projected cost of more than £25 billion for 2010-11, just £7bn is made up by employees, with the balance coming from their

publicly-funded employers and directly from the Treasury.

The commission wants an immediate increase in employees' contributions and a switch to a system where workers get a lump sum with which to buy an annuity income in retirement.

The IoD's regional director, Rodger Broad said: "This is not about the private sector knocking the public sector, but a matter of simple economics."

"Many people who are saving towards their own retirement must be wondering why the majority of the workforce is supporting other people's pensions through their taxes."

"The value of public sector pensions stands at over 40 per cent of salary, compared with about 20 per cent for workers in the private sector."

"In reality, public sector workers are only putting away six per cent and their

employers 14 per cent, with the remaining sum being met by the taxpayer.

"It was traditionally argued that public servants were rewarded with golden pensions because their salaries were low by comparison. But now that they match, and in many cases exceed, the salaries paid in industry, that argument no longer holds water."

And he added that it was time the public sector faced up to changes that have been affecting private sector pension schemes for some years, where employers have been forced to end final salary schemes: "We have an ageing population and a fiscal crisis. Now is the time to make long-term plans to reduce the burden on the taxpayer."

"A simple step such as an immediate increase in public sector employee contributions of two per cent would bring in up to £2bn a year."

Comment

WATCHING the exuberant celebrations in Spain after its footballers had won the World Cup final made me think. The best team won, of course. Come on, Holland tarnished a heritage of Total Football and Johan Cruyff and all that by going for a physical contest. (Steady on, this is the business section – not sport).

And Spain deserve their moment; for all our whingeing about burying “44 years of hurt” – as national sports pages described the hiatus since 1966 – neither Spain nor Holland had ever won the World Cup before.

What about their even longer years of hurt?

But the real point here is not to sweat out the last drop of World Cup fever, but ask what that win can do for Spain and an economy even deeper in the mire than ours.

As with our football, we often dwell on our own woes without actually seeing that others might be worse off and, to compound Spanish difficulties, they are more dependant economically on we Brits through tourism and food exports than we are on them.

Belt-tightening here has consequences on the other side of the Bay of Biscay.

Of course it's hard to quantify what “some football match” can do for a nation's balance sheet, but I suspect the feel-good factor injected by that win in South Africa is worth a multi-billion euro handout from the European Union.

Which makes you wonder what even a good cup run might have done for another football-mad nation – England.

As it is, rather like the national team's coast through the qualifiers, we seemed to take the uncertainty of the General Election build-up and the austerity of the recent Budget in our stride, only for people to despair at the early demise of a bunch of overpaid footballers allegedly overawed by the country's desperation to, yes, end those 44 years of hurt.

I'm sure some business people will say, “What's football got to do with my balance sheet?” or even “What's football?” but it's about confidence from the top to the bottom of companies and the spending that comes from consumer optimism.

So don't relax your guard and do take another look at employee morale; there's little to look forward to until Christmas and far too much talk about a double-dip recession.

Don't lose on penalties now.

STEVE LOADER, BUSINESS EDITOR

ONE of the most unsung organisations in Kent, the Rochester Bridge Trust, has appointed a public relations firm to raise its profile.

The trust has been “providing passage over, under or across the River Medway from medieval times to the modern day”, but many assume its assets are part of the highways infrastructure and funded by taxes.

It owns and maintains the two road bridges on the A2 at Rochester – having been created in the Middle Ages after the original Roman crossing was swept away by flooding – but has also contributed to the cost of bridges at Tonbridge, Yalding, East Peckham, Watlington and Maidstone.

Bridge the gap with publicity

During the 1990s it helped build the Medway Tunnel and occasionally makes grants for education, church repairs and capital projects. Its finances come from a property portfolio endowed during the reigns of Richard II and Henry IV.

Bridge clerk for the trust, Sue Threder, said: “Benefactors donated land and money to ensure a sustained income for bridge maintenance and rebuilding. Our continuing management of these invest-

ments ensures we can meet our obligations in maintaining a bridge at Rochester at no expense to residents or taxpayers.”

The trust is also responsible for the preservation of its 600-year archives, collections of fine art and furniture, and historic buildings in Rochester.

We should all now hear more about its work after the appointment of Maxim PR, based in Tunbridge Wells. Director Philip Jones said: “The trust is meeting the challenges of cutting-edge engineering and estate management while honouring the principles under which it was founded. We are delighted to be working with them.”

Tweeting and meeting part of the revolution

BENEFITS from social media like Twitter and LinkedIn is being underestimated by Kent businesses, *writes Steve Loader*.

That was the view from internet guru Maria Gandara, speaking at a businesswomen's Professionally Pink networking lunch at Banks' Wine Bar, Maidstone.

Based in Tunbridge Wells, she started Maria Gandara Auctions on eBay in 2006 and now specialises in selling items on behalf of businesses. Spending so much time online, she soon realised the benefits of social media and now runs social media workshops for businesses.

“Many people think social media is about marketing online,” she told the meeting. “But actually it's any conversation or interaction you have over the internet. When Tim Berners-Lee invented the web, he said it wasn't about connecting to computers but connecting to humanity and the same is still true today – it's all about communication. Social media is a revolution. It's not going to go away, so you can't ignore it.”

Influential

“It's been estimated that by 2013 a billion people will be using Twitter and it can be extremely influential. I know of success stories that are purely down to social media; a personal trainer who started her business from home set up a gym and spent absolutely nothing on marketing.”

“Relying on word of mouth via Twitter meant her business became a great success very quickly.”

“LinkedIn can also be extremely useful. One individual claims to have earned a seven-figure sum over five years by spending just 10 minutes a day on the site. Try looking at the questions people are asking and if you can provide a knowledgeable answer, it's a great way of making initial contact.”

Maria knows bosses have worries about social media, but argues: “Negative comments will be made whether you have a presence on the web or not. At least if you are aware of what is being said about your product or company, you can tackle any derogatory comments swiftly and actually turn the situation into a positive one.”



NETWORK: Maria Gandara, left, with Emily Rushton

“You don't need to spend a huge amount of time online. Just 10 minutes a day is enough and there are many advantages for businesses. You can link to your website or blog, recommend people or indulge in a little small talk.”

“Although some people see the latter as irrelevant, imagine meeting someone for the first time and launching straight into selling your product – it wouldn't work.”

“Use a picture of yourself rather than a generic logo as this will help humanise your brand and help people to see you as a trusted resource.”

“The same principles of networking apply online as they do in face-to-face meetings: be approachable; don't talk, or tweet, too much; be honest; and above all don't launch into a hard sell as it's an immediate turn off.”

Professionally Pink lunches are organised by Kent accountancy firm Horwath Clark Whitehill (HCW) in conjunction with Ansacom, Clydesdale Bank and Brachers Law.

Organiser Emily Rushton, from HCW, said: “Although Professionally Pink is a regular networking event it was great to see so many new faces.”

“I know guests appreciated Maria's honest approach to social media and I'm sure a lot of them headed back to their offices to start Tweeting.”

Sean's new Connexions

AT A time of concern for a possible ‘lost generation’ of young employees left high and high by the downturn, a young people's charity has announced its new chief executive.

Sean Kearns takes charge in challenging times at the Connexions Kent and Medway Partnership after previously being development director for the organisation's Thames Valley division.

The Kent and Medway board's Mary Gordon said: “We look forward to Sean leading us to even greater success.”

Mr Kearns takes charge on September 1 and succeeds Gordon Bernard, who is retiring after a long career in business and education. Connexions has 350 staff responsible for delivering information, advice and guidance services Kent-wide to 13 to 19-year-olds and young people up to the age of 25 who have learning difficulties and/or disabilities. It recently won a new three-year contract with the county council to deliver the service and work-related learning provision for 125,000 young people in the county.



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KOS Media's Business Editor Steve Loader reviews business news and developments from around the county

RECRUITMENT consultancies recorded another strong rise in permanent staff placements during June, albeit the slowest in five months.

However, the latest monthly Recruitment and Employment Confederation (REC) and KPMG Report on Jobs also showed temporary staff billings easing to a seven-month low in June.

An REC spokesman said the permanent staff trend was encouraging, particularly in the key sector of construction and engineering, but warned: "With the predictions of up to 600,000 job losses in the public sector, it is still too early to tell how much of a knock-on effect this will have on job creation in the private sector."

A KPMG counterpart agreed: "The big challenge will be to transfer as many of these jobs as possible to the private sector through outsourcing and divestment, otherwise the economy will be put under enormous pressure at all levels."

BLUEWATER continues to rise above the flat mood on the High Street. Just a week after Business Week reported three new outlets opening there, another has announced entry to the 330-strong club of shops and brands.

The Bluewater opening on August 19 is music and lifestyle fashion brand Hed Kandi's first standalone venture – it has so far operated 'capsule' outlets within department stores. It joins other Bluewater new arrivals: fashion brands Juicy Couture and Ce Me London, and shirts brand Charles Tyrwhitt.

AUCTION house Bonhams has welcomed Charles Martins back to the company where he made his industry debut in the 1980s as a porter and junior cataloguer. The Dublin-born 48-year-old returns 25 years later as a "business-getter and consultant" for the South East, based at Sevenoaks.

He said of the changes while away: "The sheer scale of the operation is almost overwhelming. With offices in London, Oxford, Knowle, Bury St Edmunds, Chester and Edinburgh, the company taps into the very thing that a purely local auctioneer cannot provide – specialist sales, backed up by sophisticated marketing and full-scale advertising."

LAW firm Furley Page has expanded its French Property and Estates team with the arrival of Florence Richards.

Florence, 36, who speaks fluent English and lives in Canterbury, is the second native French speaker on the team and previously worked for a French corporate law firm in Lille and Lyons. She advises clients on the purchase, sale and holding of French property, tax and estate planning through Furley Page offices in Canterbury, Chatham, Whitstable and Lloyds of London.

BUSINESS failures in the second quarter slowed as companies gained a tighter grip on cash and costs.

Data from Equifax showed a 19.1 per cent drop against the 2009 period and a seven per cent improvement against Q1 2010. While this barometer is not yet back to pre-recession early 2008 levels, an Equifax spokesman said firms seem to be taking the right actions in difficult trading conditions. He added: "They need to continue to use rigorous credit checks, alongside ongoing monitoring of the financial status of their customers and suppliers."

"By operating best practice and harnessing the power of the latest risk management solutions, firms can minimise the threat of bad debt and secure the future of their business."

Ringway to test claims of fuel-saving injector

By **STEVE LOADER**

steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

AIRPORTS and roads contractor Ringway will use this weekend's Kent County Show to unveil a gadget that could help slash the greenhouse gas emissions fuelling climate change.

The hydrogen fuel injector (HFI) already has the potential to save 20 per cent of fuel consumption and reduce CO2 emissions from large commercial vehicles.

And this hi-tech device – developed in Westerham and Hadlow and now recently moved near the historic Pantiles in Tunbridge Wells – might pave the way for greener ship propulsion and cheap emission-free hydrogen-powered cars, as well as creating jobs in Kent.

Developed by Haswell Ltd, the HFI uses excess power from an engine's alternator to electrolyse distilled water and inject the resulting hydrogen and oxygen into a diesel engine's fuel system prior to turbocharging.

The gases then boost ignition within the cylinders, while reducing fuel consumption – trials show by up to 20 per cent.

Other green benefits include lower levels of another greenhouse gas, nitrous oxide, or NOx, and other undesirable exhaust emissions, plus more efficient running and reduced engine maintenance.

Ringway – a contractor for Kent County Council's post-winter emergency road repairs



TURBO BOOST: Fuel savings could be huge for fleet operators of high-mileage trucks

task force – is already putting claims for the device to the test in a trials vehicle.

Haswell director Simon Haswell said: "If the 20 per cent savings in fuel projected were achieved Ringway could potentially reduce annual running costs to KCC by £300,000 a year and lower CO2 outputs by 16.7 per cent."

He admitted his company's device was not unique – others are pursuing similar technology – but he believed his version represented a 'next generation' already proving its potential to operators of big trucks like Ringway and he named store giants Marks & Spencer and John Lewis/Waitrose as other potential trial

partners. "A 20 per cent saving is attractive enough to a car user," he said.

"But for the big truck operator, with a vehicle expected to cover 3,000 miles a week and averaging 8.25mpg, it is huge – especially across a whole fleet."

"It will be tempting van operators, too, and we aim to have a version running in a van within six months."

But he added it was expensive to retro-fit the device on current generation units, unless they were running up high commercial mileages and, in its current state, the HFI could be uneconomic for private car users, though he declined to give figures for installation of the device on any vehicle.

However, he drew inspiration from hydrogen-powered cars like the Honda Clarity already on trials in California, albeit at a cost thought to be about £300,000 per car.

Mr Haswell explained that while mass production could bring that cost down, the Catch-22 was in the cost of the creating a hydrogen gas generation and filling station network to support the switch to hydrogen cars.

His alternative was to fit a version of the HFI to household boilers, creating an alternative hydrogen re-fuelling station at home for the family car. But in the shorter term, he was more excited by the possibility of cracking down on marine emissions.

He said: "We have a big carbon footprint being laid down just off the Kent coast in the Channel and the big ship potential for a version of the HFI is enormous, though we are looking initially at testing the concept in a 100ft twin engine boat."

NI policy must help 'deprived' east Kent

BUDGET plans to exclude Kent and the "prosperous South East" from national insurance relief to businesses have been questioned by Dover and Deal's newly-elected Conservative MP, Charlie Elphicke.

A former tax lawyer who has also run his own small business, Mr Elphicke told Government colleagues in the House of Commons that "pockets of poverty" in Dover and across east Kent and the South East were being ignored by the new Finance Bill, which favours the old industrial heartlands of the Midlands and North.

Extended

Though he liked the principle of the scheme, Mr Elphicke told the House: "Ideally it should be extended across the nation, especially in deprived areas of the South East that have benefited from social structural European funds. Not just Dover, but other parts of east Kent and the South East. We need to clear away the deprivation and benefits culture that has grown up in recent years so we can unlock the potential, the hope and the chances in each and every citizen of our nation."

"If we get them off benefits and



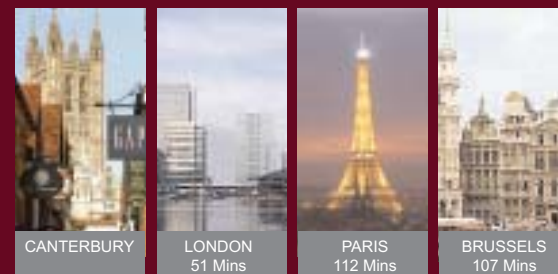
MAIDEN SPEECH: Dover and Deal MP Charlie Elphicke

back into work and break the cycle of poverty, we bring hope and unlock that potential."

Mr Elphicke, who secured a 10.4 per cent swing to overturn a near 5,000 majority enjoyed by incumbent Labour MP Gwyn Prosser at the May 6 general election, said after the debate: "I'm keen to see our community benefit from the national insurance relief for new businesses."

"If this isn't possible, then I hope the new regional fund will be focused on helping small businesses that create jobs."

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Making engineering sexy at the free BIG breakfast

IF THE UK is to learn from the economic disaster of the past decade or so, then it should listen to people like the guest speaker at a breakfast meeting in Chatham on Friday.

He is Terry Scuoler, managing director of the Engineering Employers Federation (EEF) – the voice of UK manufacturing – and a man on a mission to make engineering sexy again for the nation that sparked the industrial revolution. He is well qualified, having been an Army officer before entering the publishing and then construction industries, going on to join Royal Ordnance – later part of BAE (British Aerospace) – and then serving more than 10 years as the MD credited with reviving defence technology firm Ferranti.

Competition is expected to be fierce to hear Mr Scuoler's top industry tips at the BIG (Business Innovation Group) Breakfast on the University of Greenwich at Medway campus, Chatham Maritime.

The event will also deliver an insider's perspective into the health and recent advances in UK manufacturing and allow useful networking through BIG partners – the Kent Invicta and Thames Gateway chambers of commerce – in association the University of Greenwich.

BIG aims to boost the Kent economy through a push on several fronts. These include:

- To bring together professional businesses and establish a regional collaboration platform for the manufacturing, engineering and technology, and creative and media sectors.

• To support local companies in the exploration of new opportunities for public sector funding and contracts, commercial ventures and collaborative research and development programmes.

- To help generate new opportunities such as those linked to the London Olympics, both in the run up to 2012 and from its proposed legacy.
- To offer expertise on how to bid for contracts as well as providing information on opportunities as they develop.

Friday's event (7.30-9am) is free to attend for engineering/manufacturing organisations, but due to limited places and expected demand, the maximum number of attendees is two per organisation. Would-be delegates are advised to pre-register via Sharon Hogbin shogbin@tgcc.co.uk, telephone 01634 311441.

The breakfast forms part of a BIG programme of forthcoming events and workshops including networking, specialist training and focused workshops, bid writing and tendering, forming bid partnerships and building consortiums, quality management, sector specific opportunities such as sustainable construction, and effective collaboration with BIG's knowledge base partner, the University of Greenwich.

For more about BIG, click on www.big-kent.org.uk.



This Wheeler

If you have become a multi-millionaire through high quality mail order and then internet shopping, you wouldn't want to open a chain of shops and take on seemingly unnecessary overheads, would you?

Well, yes, actually, says Nick Wheeler, witty founder of the affordable yet quality shirt brand Charles Tyrwhitt, who not only chose Kent's Bluewater shopping centre for his 13th store but – unlike many company bosses – likes to meet and greet customers at the openings. So Business Editor STEVE LOADER had to meet him to button down why he diversified into traditional retail.



NICK WHEELER

KOSmedia BUSINESS WEEK

THE BIG INTERVIEW

IT IS far too tempting to add the word 'dealer' after Nick Wheeler's name. The Charles Tyrwhitt Shirts founder is a born entrepreneur and even established his business – based on his two middle names – by using a bank loan to buy a classic Aston Martin that he later resold for nearly five times more start-up cash.

As an Eton schoolboy he ran "funny little businesses" including selling Christmas trees: "They sold so well I wanted to go full-time, until my father pointed out that it was a bit seasonal."

His enthusiasm also took a knock during a holiday job at Harrods: "I was sent to golf wear. I hate golf but I was keen and by the end of day one had a list of suggested improvements for the manager, who must have told me 10 times that day that he had been there 20 years."

"I came away thinking I would be promoted, but came in next day and found myself in the luggage department, but I soon had ideas there, too."

"I spent the rest of my time at Harrods helping in the basement and it convinced me that I never wanted a business culture like that. People in our company are encouraged to think."

Undeterred, the Shropshire-born deal-maker was soon dabbling in more sales while reading for his geography degree at Bristol University, believing he had hit the jackpot after buying a £10 pair of handmade shoes while travelling in India: "I thought they were the best shoes I'd ever had, rounded up 50 potential customers at £50 a time, traced all round their feet and faxed all this off to this little factory in India."

"Unfortunately, what with fax machine technology and terrible Indian phone lines, I ended up with shoes seemingly made for pixies and clowns and not for the people who had ordered them."

But the eureka moment came next – shirts.

"There was no great science or research behind it," he said. "People agonise about starting their own business, saying, 'I can't think what to do'. But it's less about

what you sell and more about the way you do it."

But he happily contradicted this by admitting to a life-long passion for classic shirts that has brought him success and he encouraged his Edenbridge-born wife, Chrissie Rucker, to chuck in her job as a fashion journalist to follow her eye for good fabrics and design, thereby forming her own highly successful mail order and shops chain, The White Company.

And he has stuck fairly rigidly to what he knows and likes while admitting that "fashion is fun", recently introducing Liberty designs into his range, only to add: "Fashion is the design, shape, colour of the moment and if you get it right you do very well and you've never

bought enough. Get it wrong and you get left with a load of stock you can't sell. We check our top 100 sellers every week and four out of the top 10 are always white shirts. We have the more fashionable, but most people don't like them as much."

"Every day I just think I want to give our customers better quality, better value and better service. If you do that then you'll have a great business no matter what you do."

"We go for traditional craftsman stuff, but we have to do it at a price. Primark has really shaken up the market, but we would never go that low. We always aim to sell a good, honest product at the right price."

"I don't actually like short-sleeve shirts – they sell well though – and I don't like shirts with pockets. People like pockets for glasses, bus passes and pens, but I just can't stand them. It's like putting a roof rack on a Ferrari – just ruins the design."

"We offer pockets as an optional extra and some of our casual shirts come with

a pocket, but a shirt with a suit shouldn't have a pocket, in my opinion."

Carefully concealing my own shirt pocket behind my jacket lapel (no bus pass, pens or glasses though) we move to why the company needed shops after success through mail order and internet business.

Nick explained that it was no spur of the moment thing as Charles Tyrwhitt had opened a shop in London's Jermyn Street 13 years ago: "If I opened there – the home of quality shirts – I thought we could use the address and a photograph of our shop in Jermyn Street for the mail order business and give the whole brand credibility. I didn't really know much about retail after



SUITS YOU: Charles Tyrwhitt Shirts boss Nick Wheeler

"80% of businesses affected by a major incident either never re-open or close within 18 months." *



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*Source: AXA Business Continuity Guide for Small Businesses

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dealer was born to sell

making a massive mistake by buying a retail business, thinking that I'd buttoned down the shirt market. I lost more money in three months than in 10 years in shirts. Complete disaster. So I'd had my fingers burned. But Jermyn Street just boomed from day one and we then did the same in New York to give credibility to our mail

order operation in the States. The jump from one shop to the next one is not so obvious, but while everyone talks about the incredible growth of the internet, in retail terms it still averages just 10 per cent of the market.

"So either I'm going to grub around trying to catch 10 per cent of the market or add far more by opening stores.

"And the two areas are complementary. A lot of people won't buy a shirt mail order because they like to touch and feel it before they try it on, but after they've bought one then perhaps they try mail order – the shops work as a shop window for the whole business.

"I'm really interested to see how Bluewater goes. It's our first opening in a shopping centre. It draws people from miles around and has a massive footfall. As a mail order business you don't have that passing footfall. Typically, as a mail order

company, you are sending a brochure to your own database, rather than hitting new people. You can put inserts into a magazine, but people shake them and they go straight in the bin."

And he added that women, who buy many of his shirts for their men, like shops and are also showing interest in the

women's lines he has introduced.

"Women's shirts are usually more fashion than quality so we have taken the same stitching and finish from Jermyn Shirt shirts and incorporated them," said Nick. "It's only four per cent of the business, but a big opportunity."

He believes Charles Tyrwhitt, which employs 400

people, can go on to open 50 UK stores – Tunbridge Wells is another Kent target – and added: "There will always be a market for affordable quality shirts, but I am keeping an eye on the economy and am not driven to build and sell the company.

"I started this business 20 years ago with the view that I never wanted to sell it and I'm in it for the long term.

"I've got four children and I think of the business as my eldest child – I would never sell my children. People say never get emotionally attached to your business, but I just am."

NICK WHEELER'S CV

- 1986 – sets up Charles Tyrwhitt while still at Bristol University.
- 1987 – joins highly-rated American strategic management consultants Bain and Co – "Interesting and diverse, but it reinforced to me that I wanted to have my own business."
- 1989 – goes full-time with Charles Tyrwhitt.
- 1997 – company opens first shop, on London's Jermyn Street with other flagships following in New York and Paris.



ROUNDED: Nick regards his outlets as the shop window for the mail order side

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WELL SHOD: An early venture into Indian handmade shoes taught Wheeler a lesson

NICK'S TOP TIPS

- Love the product – "I love shirts. Christmas trees used to give me a huge rash when I sold them, but I loved them too."
- Customer service – "You grow or bankrupt a business the same way – one customer at a time. Look after them. It doesn't matter whether you are Microsoft with millions, or a corner shop with 20 regulars."
- He recently introduced a live feedback service via email called FeeFo asking customers to take a few seconds to rate the company's products and services and even make comments: "Whatever they've written, good or bad, is then live on our website. As it is, 98 per cent of people rate our service as excellent or good and 97 per cent of our products as excellent or good."
- Focus – "Decide what you are good at and bloody well stick to it. A few years ago I brought in an MD and we tried to turn ourselves into Ralph Lauren – women's, children's, formal, casual – disastrous."
- Encourage staff responsibility – "I hate it when you get someone on the phone saying, 'Oh, I'll just ask my supervisor'. If a staff member makes a bad decision, we can sit down and have chat about it – the big thing is that people learn."

Research champion's parting shot

AFTER a decade as chairman of East Malling Trust for Horticultural Research, Dr Ian Graham-Bryce has stepped down in favour of his deputy, Will Sibley.

But he used his departure to fire a warning to the Government not to under-fund agricultural research as the UK faces up to threats against food security and the environment.

Dr Graham-Bryce, pictured right, said: "Thanks to the trust's independence we have been able to remain focused on championing and supporting the scientific needs of horticulture."

"Given the challenges we face, the industry needs the all-important scientific capabilities to support its ambitions to improve productivity and environmental performance and adapt



to whatever climate change and legislation throws at it. Now more than ever it is vital the Government recognises the role science can and will play in ensuring food security and reducing our impact on the environment. In order to tackle these, research must be properly funded."

The trust is the country's largest independent donor to fruit research and owns and manages the research station and Bradbourne House, East Malling, as well as the associated

conference facilities and 600-acre farm estate near Maidstone. Dr Graham-Bryce's departure marks the end of 31 years with the trust and EMR. He was previously a director (1979-86) and a trustee (1986-2010).

Will Sibley, a fruit tree nurseryman and board director with the Horticulture Development Company, is also a former Master of the Worshipful Company of Fruiterers and has been a trustee since 1997.

He said: "Ian leaves us well placed to continue to provide research funding on the key issues facing growers and the industry."

Also stepping down is Prof John Prescott, former principal of Wye College and former chairman of the trust's science committee.

Manston's new 'pilot'

KENT International Airport's new chief executive is the man credited with revitalising London City Airport, *writes Steve Loader*.

As former director of strategy at the capital's site, Charles Buchanan masterminded planning permission there for aircraft movement numbers to rise from 73,000 to 120,000 a year.

The former civil engineer and Eurotunnel executive also oversaw a £40 million investment programme that has seen the Docklands airport grow.

His takeover at Thanet's KIA Manston, owned by Infratil, follows former chief executive Matt Clarke's return to the company's New Zealand homeland after an abortive attempt to persuade long-haul operators to switch flights to Kent.

Infratil bought KIA out of receivership in 2005, but industry watchers have criticised the move after the company's stake in Glasgow Prestwick, together valued at



HIGH FLYER: New boss Charles Buchanan

NZ\$222m in 2009 was downgraded to NZ\$138m this year – the Kiwi group is valued in total at NZ\$965m with other assets including a controlling share of Wellington Airport in New Zealand.

Tom Wilson, Infratil's chief executive in Europe, was upbeat about Mr Buchanan's appointment at KIA though: "Having spent over

10 years at the highly successful London City Airport, leading its development and communications activities, he will play a vital part in taking the airport forward over the coming years."

Mr Buchanan said: "The restarting of daily passenger services to Edinburgh in May was a milestone for Manston."

"The commitment Flybe has shown by announcing daily departures to Manchester too, starting in September, is an endorsement of the work of the team here, and the potential the airport has to offer."

"Having a successful regional airport is a major element in the regeneration of an area, not only by providing direct employment, but also giving access to the markets of the world."

"The owners of the airport have also demonstrated their commitment to the future of Manston operations through their planning application to install a new radar system."

"This investment of almost £3m will ensure the continued operation of the airport in conjunction with the wind farms being developed nearby off the Thanet coast."



NET GAIN: Margaret Stewart at the new fish counter at Asda in Gravesend

New-look Asda tips the scales

ASDA'S Gravesend store was formally reopened this week after a £1.9 million makeover. Key spending went on new fresh food counters, fitting rooms for the store's George budget clothing department and the in-store post office.

Manager Chris Fawn said: "The aim of was to transform our store's appearance and increase the choice and value for our customers so they really can find everything they need under one roof."

The chain is currently engaged in a price war with rivals Tesco, Sainsbury's and Morrisons to maintain its record as Britain's lowest priced supermarket for 13 years in a row.

School gift boosts the image of science

A DEMONSTRATION of thermal imaging at Rainham Mark Grammar School started calmly enough. But students were soon hooked by a close-up on technology that they had seen only on TV shows such as Police Camera Action and Springwatch.

It wasn't long before they were training the thermal imaging camera on Bunsen burners, ice cubes and lollies during the presentation by FLIR Systems' Kevin Saxton, making its mark on a new

generation of potential scientists and engineers.

The device was then donated to the school by FLIR Systems, based in West Malling and the UK sales and service arm of the world's leading manufacturers of thermal imaging cameras.

Rainham Mark bucks the trend by regularly having more than half its sixth form opt to take an A-level science subject.

"Out of more than 30 possible subjects, the sciences are always in our top six," said

physics teacher and deputy head Alan Moore.

"And many of our students go on to pursue careers in medicine and the pure sciences."

FLIR's donation would be invaluable, he added: "We are always on the lookout for opportunities to enhance our teaching."

It was also timely for pupils taking a field trip to a nature reserve near Skegness this month, where the camera will be used to record the activities of nocturnal creatures such as bats.



NEW IMAGE: Rainham Mark pupils

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Forging ahead at Dockyard

CHATHAM'S Historic Dockyard is about to draw a line under the legacy of its closure as a working naval base 26 years ago.

It has since charted a stormy passage as a charitable trust seeking to fund costly refurbishment of magnificent buildings, steeped in the history of maritime greats such as Drake and Nelson, yet neglected during the Navy's final years in charge.

But the Historic Dockyard Trust has lovingly restored and enhanced the site and, on July 24, puts the final piece of the jigsaw in place by re-opening the former No1 Smithery.

The £13 million project has created a gallery and museum, housing collections from the Imperial War and National Maritime Museums, and the Smithery building – where ship ironmongery was forged – has been transformed from a forlorn sight.

And it now looks out onto Museum Square, a smart plaza where visitors can stroll to all points of the dockyard compass or simply pic-

nic and enjoy the sights. Trust chief executive Bill Ferris said: "Museums have been under pressure to display many of the treasures they have stored away. We needed to spend millions refurbishing No1 Smithery while the National Maritime, for instance, needed to spend large sums finding somewhere to store stuff they were being told to get on display."

By pooling grant aid and compiling a wide-ranging application to the Lottery Fund, he added, the co-operative venture was born.

An art gallery within the Smithery will also show touring collections, starting with a six-month display of paintings showing ship-building on the Clyde, by Sir Stanley Spencer.

Chatham Historic Dockyard is described as a 'working heritage showcase' with 140 commercial tenants, a steadily rising visitor count – 170,000 last year – and 112 homes.

The trust is confident it is close to generating the £4m a year needed to make the site self-sustaining.

Return of Open tees up a £20m windfall

OPEN OPPORTUNITY: Royal St George's at Sandwich

By **STEVE LOADER**

steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

LOCAL income worth up to £20 million could be generated by the return of the Open Golf Championship to Kent next year.

More than 200,000 spectators are expected at the Royal St George's Golf Club in Sandwich from July 14-17, 2011, with tens of thousands taking golf and leisure breaks in Kent in the months before and after the event.

According to Visit Kent, which has launched a campaign to promote the county's 100 golf courses, research after the Open in Kent in 2003 showed more than £17.6m of additional spending generated for east Kent, with a further £17.4m regionally and £12.7m for the UK.

A record number of spectators is expected this time, too, nearly 10 per cent more than the 182,500 who attended in 2003 – helped by new high speed rail services from London and the Continent.

Golf courses, hotels, restaurants, travel companies and other local businesses are all expected to get a boost, creating more than 1,000 jobs directly and indirectly.

Sandra Matthews-Marsh, chief executive of Visit Kent, said: "The Open Championship is one of the most important global sports events and is watched by an estimated 100 million television viewers around the world."

"Royal St George's is the only Open venue in southern England and the closest to London, so this is a significant opportunity for Kent to benefit not just during Open week, but before and after the Championship."

• **For details on where to play and stay in Kent go to www.golfforkent.co.uk.**

Sheps on the pull for talent

ANYONE dreaming of running their own pub can now access a recruitment pack to launch them on the way.

The new guide from Shepherd Neame lays out the processes and advantages of joining the historic Kent brewer as either a pub tenant or manager and includes four pull-out sheets: career histories; benefits; training, development and business support; and a questionnaire.

It also includes a history of the 300-year-old Faversham brewery, details of its brands – such as Spitfire, Bishop's Finger and Asahi – and an overview of its 350-plus estate.

The pack states: "A career in the licensed trade provides a unique opportunity to run a business in the convivial, friendly atmosphere that only a British pub can provide. It is challenging work, but the rewards are high."

The pack includes six Shepherd Neame success stories, including Richard Barrett and Jenny Chapman, of the Chequers in Heavenham. It also details unusual business partnerships, such as that of Phil and Debbie Glover and Tom and Angie Raper, of the Walnut Tree in Loose, two couples who pooled resources to run the pub in partnership.

Sheps' property and tenanted trade director George Barnes said: "This pack clearly explains all of the benefits of working as a



CHEERS: Richard and Jenny at Chequers manager or running a pub as a tenant with Shepherd Neame. The right people are vital to the successful running of a pub and we hope this pack will help bring those people forward."

NEXT WEEK: Business Week Spotlight will focus on the finance and legal sectors

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LEEDS CASTLE
KENT, ENGLAND

Timeline

KOS Media sport takes a look at the highlights of all the sporting action from the last 50 years

1960 50 YEARS AGO: RAIN helped Kent to secure a draw with Somerset at Maidstone, after the visitors set Kent a target of 239 for victory with two-and-a-half hours left for play at The Mote.

Somerset made 238 in their first innings, with Shenton taking 5 for 68, but Kent were all out for 200 in reply and grateful for 84 from Leary – Jones' 33 being the next highest score.

Somerset reached 200 for 3 in their second innings before making a cautious declaration.

Kent were briefly on trouble at 18 for 2 with openers Phebey and Richardson already back in the pavilion, but between the showers Prideaux and Wilson batted through to the close, leaving Kent on 80 for 2.

1985 25 YEARS AGO: SHEPPEY teenager Gerard Nohilly signed a one-year deal with Northampton Town.

Nohilly, 19, was offered a deal by Cobblers manager Graham Carr – a former Dartford manager and father of comedian Alan Carr – after impressing during a week's trial at the County Ground.

Gillingham were dealt a blow when they were told they would have to play a pre-season friendly with top flight side Queens Park Rangers behind closed doors, because Priestfield did not yet comply with the conditions of the Safety at Sport Grounds Act.

2000 10 YEARS AGO: KENT slumped to a heavy defeat against one-day specialists Gloucestershire at Cheltenham, losing by five wickets in National League Division One.

After winning the toss and batting, Kent lost openers Rahul Dravid (16) and Ed Smith (14) cheaply, before Mark Ealham (pictured) hit an unbeaten 49 from 52 balls to help them reach 199 from 45 overs.



Martin McCague removed Tim Hancock for just four early in Gloucestershire's reply, caught behind by Paul Nixon.

When Ealham had Matt Windows lbw Gloucestershire were wobbling on 109 for 5, but Jack Russell (55 not out) and Mark Alleyne (35 not out) saw the home side through with 29 balls to spare.

Open win a 'dream come true' for Lyle

SET against a backdrop of Richborough power station, permanently-threatening skies, the tail end of a hurricane and some profoundly troubling sports-casual clothing, the 1985 Open at Royal St George's was the event that transformed Sandy Lyle from merely a very good golfer into one of the greats.

It also ended a wait of 16 years for a British winner – the batting of an eyelid by Wimbledon standards, but at the time considered a drought – as Lyle, a 27-year-old Scot, became the first home winner since Tony Jacklin in 1969.

It was achieved after a final round of nerve-shredding anxiety which saw Lyle's rivals buckle one by one while he, just, held his game together.

Lyle was second on the opening day with a 68, two-under-par, but four shots off the lead.

The early running was made by Christy O'Connor Jnr, but the suspicion his opening round was a fluke was seemingly confirmed when he shot six-over on day two.

By the end of Saturday's third round Bernhard Langer and David Graham were in the lead at one under, with Lyle, Mark O'Meara, Ian Woosnam and a recovering O'Connor tied for third place, at two shots over.

On day four Tom Kite surged into the lead, only to falter again. At the 14th Lyle was in deep trouble, until he holed from the rough for a birdie and crucially birdied the 15th, where Graham dropped a shot.

Going into the 18th, Lyle was one shot in the lead when a streaker invaded the green, inspiring Peter Alliss' famous quip: "What a lot of fuss about a little thing like that."

Lyle played a disastrous approach shot and pounded the ground in despair, but limited his losses to just one dropped shot, finishing on two over.

At the 18th, both Graham and Langer needed a three to force a play-off.

JULY 21 1985:

The 150th Open Championship concludes today at St Andrews, but it will have to do a lot to eclipse the drama at Sandwich 25 years ago. In the latest in our occasional series on Kent's Greatest Sporting moments, **FRED ATKINS** looks at Sandy Lyle's triumph on an unforgiving course at Royal St George's...

The former's hopes died in the bunker and when the latter missed a putt from the rough the title – and £65,000 – was Lyle's.

"When I made the putt at the 15th hole for my second successive birdie I almost burst into tears because it was so exciting to get back into contention again," Lyle said.

"I never got jumpy, I didn't lose control and I was thrilled by the way I played the last few holes. It's a dream come true, for in 1969, when Tony won, I was in the stands at the 18th green and I felt then how nice it would be to win a championship like this."



GLORY DAYS: The St George's crowd give Sandy Lyle a rapturous reception on his way to winning the 1985 Open



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Delhi call-up is a huge lift for trio

THREE Kent weightlifters will head to Delhi in search of medals this autumn after being selected in England's team for the Commonwealth Games.

Emily Godley is the county's sole female representative after the 20-year-old, from Bromley, was picked to compete in the 63kg category.

Meanwhile, two Sidcup-born lifters have been included in the men's team, with Jack Oliver and Joe Muskett both travelling east for the Games in October.

Oliver, 19, now lives in Bexleyheath and will lift in the 77kg class, while Bexley-based Muskett, 24, will pit his wits against the Commonwealth's finest as he goes for 105kg gold.

Weightlifting is one of 17 sports which will be contested in Delhi and further names are likely to be added to the 12-strong England squad.

England expects from Kent three

THE touch rugby European Championships gets underway next week and three Kent-based players are among those hoping to be part of an England triumph.

Chris Garland (inset), a former Tunbridge Wells RFC player, is competing at his first international tournament having made it through local and regional trials. He is joined in the men's over-35 squad by Tonbridge-based Steve Roffe and Herve Darthuy, for the tournament which starts in Bristol on Thursday.

With all games to be played at Filton College, England face favourites Wales twice on Friday and conclude their eight group fixtures against Scotland on Sunday, just before the semi-finals and final take place.



By TOM HOWARD

BATTLING back from injuries seems to be built into Lisa Dobriskey's DNA as she looks set to shrug off a problem and peak at a major championships for the second successive year.

The 27-year-old has been plagued by injuries and niggles early in the last two seasons, but after two impressive recent displays she again appears to be hitting top form at the right time.

The Ashford-born 1500-metre runner admitted she was concerned a niggling back injury would hamper her chances of being included in the Great Britain squad for this month's European Championships in Barcelona.

But despite only finishing third in the UK Championships and European Trials last month, she was selected for the team.

This was not uncharted territory, with Dobriskey coming perilously close to missing last year's World Athletics Championships in Berlin after picking up a serious thigh injury.

With barely any track time she produced a remarkable display in Germany to claim a silver medal.

By the beginning of July she had only competed three times on the track all season, but two fine races in four days at Lausanne and Gateshead confirmed a return to form.

The performance in the British Grand Prix last Sunday was particularly telling as she beat Great Britain team-mates Hannah England and Stephanie Twell to win.

But with this month's European Championships a chance to underline Dobriskey's reputation as one of the world's best 1500m runners, she feels ready to put aside her injury scares and take on Europe's best.

"Last week was a good one, my times are starting to come together now, so it is looking good that I will peak at the right time," she said.

"It has been similar to last season, but it is quite a different injury compared to last year.

"It's really been a niggle in my lower back which I've had a couple of injections on and a bit of physio work. It hasn't stopped me running like the injury I had last year, which put me out for a two weeks.

"It put me a bit behind this year, but after the confidence gained from battling against injury

Picture: ADY KERRY



BIG STRIDES: Lisa Dobriskey (far left) defeated her GB team-mates at last week's Grand Prix

Dobriskey uses last year's experience to peak at perfect time

last year I always felt I would be okay, although I was worried I wouldn't make the team."

Dobriskey was back in Diamond League action on Friday night in the French round at

Paris' Stade de France stadium. Next week she will head to the Great Britain holding camp in Portugal before she begins her tilt for the European gold medal on July 29.

Picture: ADY KERRY



HOPE: Jack Green

Fantastic four take on the world

A QUARTET of promising young athletes from the county will represent Great Britain in the World Junior Championships in Canada next week.

Jack Green, a 400-metre hurdler from Maidstone, and the Blackheath and Bromley trio of Lorraine Ugen (long jump), Dan Putnam (4x400m relay), and Sophie Hitchon (hammer), will compete against the world's best young athletes in Moncton, New Brunswick, next week.

The championships will be the biggest event of their athletic careers to

date and represents a chance to make an impact against a world-class field.

Green, a former Ashford Athletic Club runner, could be in contention for a medal after an impressive outdoor season so far. The 18-year-old secured his place in the squad by winning the under-20 World Trials Championships in Bedford last month.

Hitchon is also in great form going into the event, with eight victories this season, including the trials. The 19-year-old also finished second in the senior UK Championships last month.

Ugen and Putnam, both 18, have earned their place in the squad on merit after a solid season and will hope to feature in the final stages of their events.

Putnam was also part of a successful weekend for the Kent squad at the English Schools Athletics Championships last weekend. The county clinched seven titles overall, with Putnam taking victory in the senior boys 400m.

The World Junior Championships begin on Monday.

McGuigan keeps tabs on Dallas

BOXING legend Barry McGuigan has tipped Tom Dallas for a bright future in the ring after watching the Kent heavyweight make an impressive start to his professional career.

It is 25 years since McGuigan, who now lives near Canterbury, shot to fame by winning the WBA featherweight title, but he has kept a close eye on the sport.

Dallas is undefeated after 11 bouts, winning eight by knockout, since turning professional in 2007.

The Chatham-born boxer's most recent fight came three weeks ago when he defeated Russian Daniil Peretyatko at the Brentwood Centre in Essex.

The 25-year-old's steady climb up the rankings has come to the attention of McGuigan, who believes he has all the skills to become a top heavyweight.

McGuigan said: "He is maturing, and in his last fight he looked like he has improved quite a lot. I'll keep an eye out for him because he is moving along pretty good.

"It's too early to say where he will be in the future. We all tend to get excited about heavyweights, but in this profession you need to have a reasoned view.

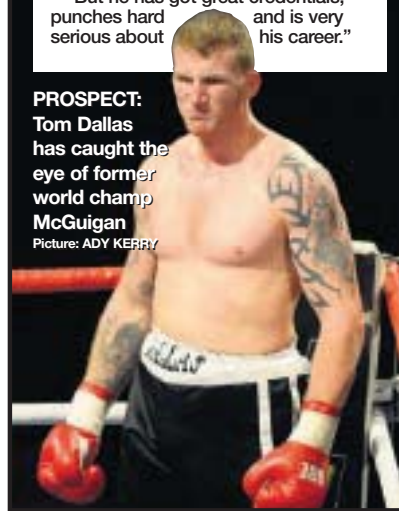
"He is doing very well, but he has a long way to go in a difficult division.

"There are issues he has got to work on as a fighter – he is in the embryonic stages of a heavyweight.

"But he has got great credentials, punches hard and is very serious about his career."

PROSPECT: Tom Dallas has caught the eye of former world champ McGuigan

Picture: ADY KERRY



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Daish more concerned with the quality than quantity of his threadbare squad

EBBSFLEET United manager Liam Daish admits his side are several weeks behind their rivals in preparing for the new Blue Square Bet South season.

Daish secured the signatures of three more players this week, but his squad stands at just 10 ahead of Tuesday's friendly away to Ryman Premier side Aveley.

While the game represents Daish's first chance to assess the quality of his charges in a game situation, he insists the result and performance are very much secondary.

He said: "I'm not worried about whether it's a test, I just want the

By **STEVE TERTVET**

lads to get their fitness levels up.

"We won't have as many trialists as last year because I haven't got time for that. We need to make quick decisions so I can't spend time looking at other players."

Clint Easton, whose time with the Fleet was curtailed by injury last season, has re-signed at Stonebridge Road, while Ram Marwa, released by Hayes & Yeading, should provide creativity and goals from midfield.

Tom Phipp, meanwhile, becomes the third youth player to sign first-

team forms – the midfielder following Chris Henry and Aidan Sherlock in stepping up to the senior squad.

Daish said: "Clint's fully fit and he can make up for last year.

"He gives us experience and know-how and he's good to have around for the younger lads.

"Ram's got good pedigree at Blue Square South level, he's been promoted twice and I'm expecting him to weigh in with a few goals.

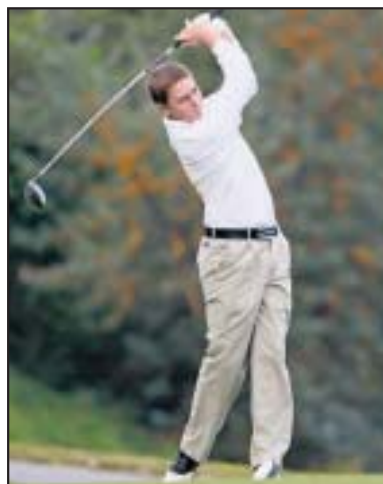
"It's been a very busy, disruptive summer, but we get on with it.

"We're concentrating on pre-season now but are four or five weeks behind other clubs."

Picture: DAVE PLUMB



UP FOR IT: Clint Easton (in red) has re-signed for a second time at Fleet



CONTENDER: Max Orrin in boys' under-16s

Amateurs battle it out on fairways of Kent's links clubs

ROYAL Cinque Ports welcomed some of the country's top male amateur golfers this week as the Deal club hosted the Tillman Trophy for a fifth time since its inception in 1980.

The tournament, open to all male amateur players, returned to Cinque Ports for the first time since 2005.

David Coupland (Boston Golf Club) played his way to a comprehensive victory, carding a total score of 271 to finish 17-under par, eight clear of his closest challenger.

Coupland carded opening rounds of 65 and 68 to leave himself well-placed on 11-under going into round three.

He then shot 68 and 70 to wrap up the title, leaving Darren Renwick a distant runner-up on nine-under.

The top-placed Kent golfer was Dartford's Michael Saunders, who finished tied-11th on level par, while Tom Sherreard (Chart Hills), finished a further two shots back in a tie for 16th.

Meanwhile, some of the best youngsters from across Europe converged on Prince's Golf Club to contest the McGregor Trophy – the boys' under-16 open amateur stroke play championship.

A field containing North Foreland's Max Orrin battled against gusting winds at the Sandwich club, with a winner yet to be crowned as this newspaper went to press.

Robert McGuirk, Prince's director of golf, said: "They all enjoyed the course although they struggled when it was blowing a gale.

"Everybody's been very positive and it's been very well-received.

"It gives the club a real buzz to host an event like this because we get to see how the best under-16 golfers get on with the changes we've made."

Historic Oval 'home' game shows county now means business

By **GLENN PEARSON**

IT MIGHT not have been the answer to their financial prayers, but Kent's historic move in hosting a home game outside the county certainly achieved one thing, and that was proving the committee are willing to look at Kent as a business and not just a cricket club.

The county's decision to bring Jamie Clifford in as chief executive once Paul Millman had left the club at the end of last year was a clear indication Kent bosses felt a new approach was needed.

With the club registering substantial losses in the last two years, change needed to be swift and, unlike the now disastrous pop concerts of last summer proved to be, it had to be a dead cert.

The first of the bold steps necessary was taken last Friday night at the Oval in Kennington, south London.

On a scorching hot evening, the Kent Spitfires lost to the Essex Eagles to end any lingering hopes they might have had about qualification to the knockout stages of the Friends Provident t20, but the result was insignificant in the grand scheme of things.

Kent had eyes on the riches of staging a home game at Surrey's Oval ground, an established Test and One-Day International arena with a capacity of 23,500.

Announcing the bold move in December last year, Clifford had hoped for a crowd in the region of 14,000. However, after a disappointing campaign, combined with a degree of 20-over overkill by the fixture planners, anticipated figures dropped significantly.

Then, with just 5,500 advanced tickets purchased, the club hung their hopes on capturing the commuter market, but that too failed to materialise to any great degree, with 7,620 the official figure on the night.

It was, however, the club's best 'home' attendance of the season, eclipsing their previous highest of 5,000 at Tunbridge Wells.

While admitting it was not a move which would put an end to Kent's financial concerns,



Picture: ADY KERRY

RETHINK: Despite losing to Essex Eagles, Kent enjoyed their biggest crowd of the season

Clifford was pleased with the turn out.

He told KOS Media: "We are not punching the air and saying this has changed our fortunes and we've had a big pay day, but similarly it's good, it's our biggest crowd of the season and we've taken a bold step that has had lots of intangible benefits, shifting the perception of what Kent cricket is.

"It's a bold statement of how we want to do things and that we are going to do things a little bit differently."

Initiative

To some extent the game did have a 'Kent feel' to it in terms of merchandising and club announcements, but St Lawrence and the Oval are like chalk and cheese, as are both Canterbury and London as cities, making the fact you are on Surrey territory crudely speaking, somewhat inescapable.

Clifford told this newspaper two weeks ago that Kent supporters would determine whether the initiative would be adopted again in the future.

With a large contingent of the crowd hailing from the other side of the Dartford Crossing,

the club's chief executive was coy about a repeat in the near future.

"There is lots to work through and think through and the biggest question is what is the structure going to look like next year?" he said.

"I could say 'yes we are going to do it again' and then we might be told we've only got three home games and we'd look silly, but similarly they could say next year the competition is being expanded and if that was the case, for a county like us, you've got to look at spreading it around."

Whether for or against the idea of hosting cricket outside the county, the initiative should be seen as a start in the long road to financial recovery.

"There isn't a single solution to our financial difficulty, it's got to be lots of little things accumulating to make the difference," Clifford said.

"The danger in trying to find that one solution means you can take on too much risk because serious money doesn't come without serious risk and we are not in a position to make those moves, so it's got to be the sum of little innovative things that leads our financial path from here on in."

Racing legend wants F1 safety standards throughout the sport

EXCLUSIVE

By **TOM HOWARD**

A YEAR on from the tragic accident which claimed the life of his son, John Surtees is campaigning to motorsport governing bodies for Formula One levels of safety to be implemented in all open-wheel series.

Henry Surtees died while driving in a Formula Two race at Brands Hatch 12 months ago. The 18-year-old sustained fatal head injuries after being struck by an errant wheel at more than 100mph during the race.

To mark the anniversary, a host of national and international motorsport stars assembled at Buckmore Park kart circuit, near Chatham, earlier this week.

Ex-Formula One star Johnny Herbert, Virgin Racing test driver Andy Soucek, and representatives from the Red Bull Racing team, were among 180 drivers who packed the grid for the Henry's Headway Challenge endurance race. The event raised £60,000 for Headway, a charity which cares for sufferers of brain injuries.

Earlier this month KOS Media revealed a full investigation into the crash by the motorsport governing body FIA, Formula Two organiser Motorsport Vision, and Formula Two car designer Williams Engineering, deemed the incident to be a freak accident.

Surtees senior, who lives in Edenbridge, does not attach any blame over what happened, but intends to make sure lessons can be learned. The 76-year-old's biggest aim is to bring Formula One levels of safety standards right the way down the motorsport pyramid.

"There are aspects in Henry's incident which are of great concern relative to safety.

"This is something I am personally looking at and talking about with the powers that be.

"I intend to make certain that if it's humanly possible no-one will experience the same sort of problems as eventually caused Henry's accident," he said.



IN MEMORY: Above, F1 racer Johnny Herbert (right) with John Surtees (left), at Buckmore Park to commemorate Henry Surtees, right, who died one year ago this week

"I think we need to make sure the safety aspects relative to cars are maintained at a level which is taken from Formula One."

Herbert is no stranger to big accidents after severely breaking both his legs in a career-threatening Formula 3000 crash in 1988, but believes it is difficult to eliminate similar accidents.

He said: "To fit something on the cars over the driver's head would, I think, lose some of the essence of single-seater racing.

Canopy

"We all know motorsport is dangerous and there are unfortunately these freaky things like Henry's tragic accident.

"People say you could put a cage in front of the driver or a canopy, but again this would cause problems if the car rolled over. It would be very hard for the driver to get out quickly and he would be trapped inside.

"They have done wonderful things to improve safety. We are always learning, and unfortunately you can only learn from accidents which come along like Henry's."

Surtees was overwhelmed by the support on show at the kart race for Henry's Headway Challenge.



Today, the ex-Formula One world champion will return to the circuit for a ceremony where the venue will rename a corner of the track 'Henry's bend'.

He said: "The motorsport fraternity and particularly the junior motorsport fraternity have done us proud. Despite the competition it was a fun day and a very successful one in that we were able to raise so much money for a worthy cause."

The money raised from the event will assist the Headway Charity's relocation in Tunbridge Wells and construction of a new care centre.

For more information on the charity and how to donate visit www.johnsurtees.com or www.headway.org.uk.

Stones shocked by accusations of wrongdoing

MAIDSTONE United have denied any wrongdoing in response to an alleged breach of their ground share agreement with Ashford Town.

The Ryman Premier League side, who agreed to a three-year ground share deal at Ashford's Homelands stadium last summer, have been accused of an alleged violation of their agreement by their Ryman South landlords.

The Stones have moved quickly to categorically deny any breach of the agreement.

Maidstone chairman Paul Bowden-Brown believes the club have been caught in the crossfire of an increasingly bitter legal dispute between Ashford co-owners, Don Crosbie and Tony Betteridge.

Town are currently dealing with an ongoing winding up petition and are suspended from all football by the Football Association after failing to pay loan fees dating back to last season.

United immediately released a statement denying there had been any violation and quashing speculation that they were poised to return to Bourne Park, the ground they rented from Sittingbourne from 2001 to 2009.

"I'm fuming, this is the last thing we need," Bowden-Brown said.

"I've written to them [Ashford] saying it should be removed. I've got no idea what the violation is. All I can tell you is I've written to the directors of Ashford about my concerns that such a statement should go online.

"The league and I are not aware of any breach of an agreement and Tony Betteridge has replied saying he's not aware."

Betteridge said he had no idea why the statement had been released.

"I've been frozen out," he said. "I'm not privy to what goes on at the business end of Ashford Town."

Crosbie was unavailable for comment.

Barcham's out to ease pain of Gills relegation

THE stigma of Gillingham's relegation from League One will not go away until the season begins, according to Andy Barcham.

Despite spending most of last season in the bottom half of the table, relegation was a shock to the players as a series of results went against them while they lost 3-0 at Wycombe on the final day of the campaign.

It meant only the briefest of stays in League One for a squad which had earned promotion via the play-offs 12 months earlier.

Barcham is one of several players still at the club who have tasted the highs and lows over the last two seasons and admits relegation has been difficult to shake off.

He said: "I'm still not over it. You can blame other people, the manager and things like that, but ultimately it lies with us - we were the ones out there playing. It's why I think everyone here just wants to get the season under way, get the good times back and try and get promotion back to where we think we should be."

The forward is not the only one to feel the experience from last season is still hanging over the players.

New Gills boss Andy Hessenthaler said: "I've got to say they are down a little bit. There's a momentum from going down and we've got to get that positivity back in the squad."



Paul Bowden-Brown

Picture: STEVE TERRELL



Andy Barcham

Picture: ADY KERRY

Palmer wants to follow in father's race tracks



HOME BOY: Jolyon Palmer at Brands today

win there would be a great feeling, it being my home circuit and in front of a big crowd."

Although there are six more races remaining

after this weekend's meeting, Palmer is thinking about winning the championship and a possible entry into Formula One next season.

If he does go on to lift the title it will be the first time two generations of the same family had won the series.

"It would be incredible if I could win the title this year," he said. "It would not only earn me the prize of a test with the Williams Formula One team, but put myself on the radar of Formula One teams for next season."

Palmer is not the only driver hoping for a win on home soil this afternoon, with Andy Priaulx, Rob Huff and Colin Turkington competing in the World Touring Car Championship at Brands today.

JOLYON Palmer may not yet be a household name, but a victory in the Formula Two Championship at Brands Hatch today could move him a step closer to the glamorous world of Formula One.

The 19-year-old driver tops the Formula Two Championship standings with a commanding 26-point lead after winning four times this season, going into this weekend's meeting.

Palmer, son of Brands Hatch circuit owner and ex-Formula Two champion Jonathan Palmer, is one of the favourites to shine in this afternoon's race in a championship regarded as a Formula One feeder series.

With wins at Silverstone, Monza and Portimao already this season, the Horsham driver hopes he can continue his form in front of a bumper home crowd.

He said: "It all really began in winter testing; we were fast in Valencia and it has just built from there really. I went into the season feeling confident due to the testing results and my confidence has grown after each race.

"Obviously I know Brands very well and to

Picture: P2

Khan return boost for beleaguered Kent

KENT'S injury concerns could ease next week with Amjad Khan in contention to play in the LV= County Championship match at Somerset, which begins on Tuesday.

When the fast bowler suffered a hamstring strain for the second time this summer, playing against Hampshire earlier this month, it was initially feared the problem could keep him out for up to a month.

Instead, Khan could return after only a fortnight on the sidelines after responding well to treatment. The hamstring will be tested this weekend, but head coach Paul Farbrace was

cautiously optimistic the 29-year-old could line-up against Somerset.

He said: "Khan potentially has a chance of playing on Tuesday. We're hoping he'll play club cricket this weekend and be fit to play at Taunton. It was his other leg this time, hopefully he'll be free for the rest of the year now."

Sam Northeast is also expected to be available after the batsman was given 10 days to recover from a shoulder injury, but skipper Rob Key is still out with a broken finger.

The side face Somerset in the Friends Provident t20 today, but the Championship

match carries far more significance.

Kent sit second bottom in Division One after an innings defeat at Hampshire in their last four-day fixture, and Farbrace wants a response.

He said: "We know that the performance at the Rose Bowl in our last Championship outing just wasn't good enough. It wasn't acceptable and we played some very poor cricket. We need to turn it round, get stuck in and show we're not a poor side. There's a lot to play for at Taunton and a bit of pride to win back as well."

• **For an analysis of Kent's trial use of the Oval as a home game last week, see page 110.**



Picture: ADY KERRY

IN LINE: Kent should see Khan's return soon

'NO OPTION' BUT TO SELL JACKSON

Scally reluctantly agrees to let top scorer leave


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THE risk of Simeon Jackson leaving for free next summer combined with the striker's desire to move to the Championship gave Gillingham little choice but to agree to his transfer, according to chairman Paul Scally.

The move, for an undisclosed sum, finally went through on Thursday, ending weeks of speculation over the 23-year-old's future.

The Gills had already rejected several offers already this summer that fell well below their valuation of the Canada international, who was the club's top scorer for the last two seasons.

Jackson had not publicly agitated for a move, but made his intentions clear by turning down a new contract earlier this year. With only 12 months left on his current deal, it raised the possibility of the squad's biggest asset leaving as a free agent next summer.

Considering the situation Scally felt it was the best decision to sell, particularly with Jackson keen to move up two divisions to join Paul Lambert's side.

"It's a deal we had no option but to do.

"We're sorry to see Simeon go and we wish him well because he's a lovely lad and it's probably because he's such a good lad that in the end allowed me to do the deal in the manner in which I did it," he said.

"Ultimately he wanted to go and we were put in a situation where it was the best thing to do in the long term.

"Partly because of his contract only having a year left to run and partly because of him knowing Norwich were interested and it was a step towards where he ultimately wants to be. It was a good commercial deal given the circumstances we were faced with."

The root of the transfer came about when the Gills approached Norwich earlier this summer to enquire about taking striker Cody McDonald on loan.

It began a process which ended with Jackson's transfer and McDonald coming to Priestfield on a season-long loan.

Scally could not disclose the fee or terms of the deal, but figures in the region of £600,000 – rising depending on additional clauses – have been reported.

By **DAVID PRITCHARD**

Although it is well below the £1 million-plus valuation former Gills manager Mark Stimson believed Jackson was worth, a figure in that region would still represent a tidy return on the £150,000 the club paid Rushden & Diamonds for the forward in January, 2008. Rushden are entitled to 15 per cent of any profit made on the transfer, but the attention now turns to possible replacements.

Even though McDonald is highly rated, he has yet to prove himself in the Football League and with Jackson gone the squad has been shorn of its only established goalscorer.

Gillingham boss Andy Hessenthaler admitted to Kent on Sunday last week he had already drawn up a contingency list of strikers to approach if Jackson left.

He is hoping to get a good chunk of the transfer to improve his squad, but Scally declined to elaborate on how the money would be spent.

He said: "Everything we do in the club is to bring other people in, so it just goes into the pot the same as all the other money we earn. It's no different."

Supporters are unsurprisingly keen to see as much of the money used to buy a readymade replacement.

Alan Liptrott, co-editor of fan site GillsConnect.com, said: "Fans are looking for somebody who is proven. Marvin Morgan [Aldershot striker] has a decent record, but I get the feeling someone like that will cost money."

Jackson, who scored 42 goals 115 appearances for the Gills, has already flown out to Germany to join Norwich's pre-season training camp.

He could get an early chance to play against his former team-mates, with the two sides drawn against each other in the first round of the Carling Cup next month.

ON HIS WAY:
Simeon Jackson
left the Gills for
newly promoted
Norwich City



Picture: ADY KERRY

MID NORTH EDITION

ISSN 2042-084-6



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